20000121.qrp v01_n707.qrl.20000121

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 19:03:12 EST
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: QRP-L digest 1707

QRP-L Digest 1707

Topics covered in this issue include:

  1) [60927] FOX: Antenna
     by "Bob Helms" <af5z@inetport.com>
  2) [60928] WTB EF Johnson 275 watt Matchbox
     by "williswonkas" <williswonkas@email.msn.com>
  3) [60929] Post Foxhunt Lunacy
     by n5ib@juno.com
  4) [60930] RE:A follow-up post on article copyright
     by Robert McConnell <rmcconne@lightlink.com>
  5) [60931] match scmatch
     by "Jerry W. O'Dell" <jwodell@ameritech.net>
  6) [60932] Re: Post Foxhunt Lunacy
     by KD1YV <kd1yv@mindspring.com>
  7) [60933] FAA beacons
     by "Deitz, Harold L." <hdeitz@ms.rose.cc.ok.us>
  8) [60934] LIST: tech purpose, pls, Forum other
     by Stuart Rohre <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
  9) [60935] QRP WAS, etc.
     by "Deitz, Harold L." <hdeitz@ms.rose.cc.ok.us>
 10) [60936] FS Radio Shack HTX-10
     by AlexQRP@aol.com
 11) [60937] To ground your antenna or not? (long)
     by Stuart Rohre <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
 12) [60938] Re: FAA beacons
     by "Howard Myers" <howardw7ilw@cableone.net>
 13) [60939] Wilderness KC-2 and "Big Rigs"
     by wb2vuo@juno.com
 14) [60940] two pelts!
     by Tim Pettibone <k5oi@zianet.com>
 15) [60941] NT0Z's Stealth Amateur Radio
     by Richard Arland <k7sz@epix.net>
 16) [60942] OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
     by "Dave Benham" <dodgeboy@mindspring.com>
 17) [60943] Pixie
     by "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@dospalos.org>
 18) [60944] Re: A follow-up post on article copyright
     by "T.J. \"SKIP\" Arey N2EI" <tjarey@home.com>
 19) [60945] Ham Radio Books

by HWRM1SS@aol.com
20) [60946] Clarification: getting QRP students onto HF under new rules...
by "Tom Scott" <tscott@eni.net>
21) [60947] Fox Hunt
by w2xn@juno.com
22) [60948] Line Loss Measurements.
by Ed Loranger <we6w@netzero.net>
23) [60949] Re: Very High Speed Op-Amps
by "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
24) [60950] Re: Line Loss Measurements.
by Ed Loranger <we6w@netzero.net>
25) [60951] Re: Post Foxhunt Lunacy
by n5ib@juno.com
26) [60952] Re: Portable CD-Player/Cassette Adapter
by DYARNES@aol.com
27) [60953] fox 1/21-lessons learned
by Dan Presley <talljazz@teleport.com>
28) [60954] Re: Very High Speed Op-Amps
by "Ian C. Purdie VK2TIP" <ianpurdie@integritynet.com.au>
29) [60955] RE: AD8361 - followup, no-see-um parts!
by "Tom Scott" <tscott@eni.net>
30) [60956] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
by "Richard Williams" <richard.a.williams@attcanada.net>
31) [60957] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
by "Don Wilhelm" <w3fpr@arrl.net>
32) [60958] Re: AD8361 - followup, no-see-um parts!
by "K3GM" <k3gm@home.com>
33) [60959] Re: Poqet PQ0181
by Bob Patten <n4bp@bc.seflin.org>
34) [60960] Re: AD8361 - followup, no-see-um parts!
by "K3GM" <k3gm@home.com>
35) [60961] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
by Russ Hines <radioruss@fuse.net>
36) [60962] N7CQR Fox Hunt
by Joe Smith <joey@joesmith.net>
37) [60963] Re: Sierra and PSK31
by Bruce Grubbs N7CEE <n7cee@arrl.net>
38) [60964] RE: BCK & other FAA Beacons
by "Jerry Bartachek" <Jerry.Bartachek@dnr.state.ia.us>
39) [60965] HB: humor for homebrewers
by Glen Leinweber <leinwebe@mcmail.cis.McMaster.CA>
40) [60966] Re: BCK & other FAA Beacons
by "Dieter Gentzow - WB8QYY" <wb8qyy@one.net>
41) [60967] Re: Very High Speed Op-Amps
by Roger Traylor <traylor@ECE.ORST.EDU>
42) [60968] Re: XCVR: toroid winding help needed for RHR40/NC20.
by Allan G Taylor <agtaylor@llnl.gov>
43) [60969] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)

by Stuart Rohre <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
44) [60970] Re: BCK and NDB info
by Dean W Manley <kh6b@juno.com>
45) [60971] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
by Richard Matthews <prm@hiwaay.net>
46) [60972] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
by "Ken Hanks" <captnfd@yahoo.com>
47) [60973] Re: Sierra and PSK31
by Charles Greene <cgreene@loa.com>
48) [60974] Re: Line Loss Measurements.
by Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
49) [60975] re: Great meeting with KI6DS and AD6A
by "Buck, Preston D" <BuckPD@corning.com>
50) [60976] Re: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
by "Mike Pupeza" <mpupeza@softecsys.net>
51) [60977] RE: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
by "Ed Tanton" <n4xy@att.net>
52) [60978] Re: Sierra and PSK31
by "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
53) [60979] RE: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
by Dave Barrett <DBarrett@creo.com>
54) [60980] Antenna Height Restrictions
by "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
55) [60981] Re: Poqet PQ0181
by "C. Lamar Derk" <n3at@noln.com>
56) [60982] Re: Wilderness KC-2 and "Big Rigs"
by wb2vuo@juno.com
57) [60983] Re: Sierra and PSK31
by k1vp@lawson-philpot.com
58) [60984] RE: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
by Ray Colbert <af852@rgfn.epcc.edu>
59) [60985] RE: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
by "Mike Pupeza" <mpupeza@softecsys.net>
60) [60986] Re: Sierra and PSK31
by "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
61) [60987] Re: Sierra and PSK31
by "George T. Baker" <w5yr@worldnet.att.net>
62) [60988] Re: Sierra and PSK31
by Charles Greene <cgreene@loa.com>
63) [60989] RE: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
by Roy <marion@montana.com>
64) [60990] TenTec PTO kit, Hustler RM40?
by "Steve/n0tu" <n0tu@webaccess.net>
65) [60991] Telescoping fiberglass masts
by ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
66) [60992] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
by Dick Carroll <dixie@townsqr.com>
67) [60993] Re: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries

    by Dick Carroll <dixie@townsqr.com>
 68) [60994] Re: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
    by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
 69) [60995] Re: TenTec PTO kit
    by "Steve/n0tu" <n0tu@webaccess.net>
 70) [60996] WD-40--Wrisking the Wrath of the OT Police
    by FrConrad@aol.com
 71) [60997] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
    by "Don Wilhelm" <w3fpr@arrl.net>
 72) [60998] Re: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
    by patrick m kvitkauskas <pmk@juno.com>
 73) [60999] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
    by Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
 74) [61000] WD 40
    by Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 18:14:46 -0600
From: "Bob Helms" <af5z@inetport.com>
To: <sholisky@ktca.org>
Cc: "QRP-L Reflector" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [60927] FOX: Antenna
Message-ID: <200001210028.SAA16678@admin.inetport.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The FOX on Tuesday evening, Jan 19th UTC used a wire loop as the antenna.

About 275' of stranded hard-drawn copper #14 AWG is suspended at three points in a tilted horizontal position with corners at 70', 35' and 30' in height. These corners are South, Northeast and West-Northwest of the loop center respectively. The feedpoint is about 15 feet south of the WNW (30') corner and has 450 ohm #14 AWG ladder line attached. The feeder comes vertically down to three wooden dowels (old mop handles) which support it for 15' going to the shack.

Yep, that insulated ladder line is fed through a rock wall inside 2" diameter PVC pipe with two grounds, three RG-213/U coaxial cables and a rotor control line!! It is then attached to a antenna tuner about 6' inside the shack. I understand the other conductors close to the balanced line do cause an impedance bump which increases loss however I notice little difference. I'm not arguing the theory but I have strong opinions on HOW MUCH loss is caused by this technique. Yes only FOUR WATTS was used to contact over 80 hounds in a two hour foxhunt.

I went to extreme to describe the 'breaking of rules' with the feedline

because of the many posts I've seen about the great care and difficulty of 'properly' installing a balanced line. I've ran this same line through an open window and find I rarely need to even retune the tuner and certainly don't detect any discernible change in signal strengths.

Thanks to all who participate in the Foxhunts - - Isn't it FUN!

72,
Bob Helms, AF5Z
af5z@inetport.com

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 19:35:49 -0500
From: "williswonkas" <williswonkas@email.msn.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: <tentec@contesting.com>, "Danny Judd" <dojudd@lex.infi.net>
Subject: [60928] WTB EF Johnson 275 watt Matchbox
Message-ID: <014b01bf63a7$79ec97e0$72701b3f@oemcomputer>

Hello,

I'm looking for the 275 watt Johnson Matchbox for use. Any out there for sale?

kg4big@arrl.net

73 Ken

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 19:39:46 EST
From: n5ib@juno.com
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.edu
Subject: [60929] Post Foxhunt Lunacy
Message-ID: <20000120.183454.7895.0.N5IB@juno.com>

The skies are clear here in Baton Rouge at 0030 Z, but it's COLD out there. BRRRR must be almost 40 degrees - don't know how long I can hold out   :^)   Gonna need my parka and long johnnies. Wonder if I can work a key with the electric ski gloves on??

I'm off to the observatory in a few minutes. I'll try for a slice of

Dan's pelt early and then move down below the pack and call "CQ LUNA"

I plan to be on for a goodly while after the hunt is over, assuming there's calls to answer. SASE for a QSL with pictures of the eclipse from our telescope.

remember the exchange:
RST NAME MOON_PHASE_ON_DAY_OF_BIRTH

Abbreviate the Moon phase thusly: NM = new Moon, WXC = waxing crescent, FQ = first quarter, WXG = waxing gibbous, FM = full Moon, WNG = waning gibbous, LQ = last quarter, WNC = waning crescent

example: de W5YW 559 JIM FQ FQ (repeating that part is not a bad idea)

So long, lunatics...they're coming to take me away ha ha... they're coming to ....

Jim N5IB

_____
YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!
Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj.

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 19:43:08
From: Robert McConnell <rmcconne@lightlink.com>
To: tjarey@home.com
Cc: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60930] RE:A follow-up post on article copyright
Message-ID: <3.0.6.16.20000120194308.085fda62@pop.lightlink.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Skip,

This is a contract issue that has little to do with copyright. As the author, you initially own all rights to the article. Once you sign a contract with a publisher, some rights are governed by the contract, which supersedes the copyright laws. In your case, the contract was to allow the publisher an exclusive first printing, after which all rights reverted back to you. Quite possibly, the ARRL has negotiated a broader deal with rights to reuse the materials after initial publication.

Bob McConnell
N2SPP

At 11:04 PM 1/19/00 -0500, T.J. \"SKIP\" Arey N2EI wrote:
>There is another issue that has been missed on this subject, One I deal
>with regularly as a radio hobby author. When I submit an article to a
>magazine, they usually buy "First North American Rights." Essentially,
>this means that the rights to the article return to me (the author)
>after publication, usually with an agreement on limited republication of
>"back issues". Further publication in any anthologies or other venues
>(CD-ROMs, web sites, etc.) require negotiation and compensation for
>secondary rights. Several of the places I regularly contribute to have
>approached me concerning republication of my material on there web sites
>or on CD-ROM compilations. In all cases I negotiated additional
>compensation for this further publication. I know of no publications in
>the hobby field that expect sole or exclusive rights in the modern arena
>but I don't know what has been done in the past. The fact that the
>League has been able to publish its CDs without incurring any known
>lawsuits from irate authors indicates either the high degree of good
>will that exists among amateurs or some aspect of copyright law that I
>am unaware of.
>--
>+++
>
> T.J. "SKIP" AREY N2EI   e-mail tjarey@home.com
>
>   Website   http://members.home.net/tjarey
>
>   Snail Mail: PO Box 236, Beverly, NJ 08010
>
>   Specialization is for insects!   LAZARUS LONG
>
>

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 19:47:52 -0500
From: "Jerry W. O'Dell" <jwodell@ameritech.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [60931] match scmatch
Message-ID: <4.2.2.20000120194526.00a79920@mailhost.det.ameritech.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

     Good lord.

     If you use 75 ohm coax to feed a 52 ohm antenna, it simply
doesn't make much difference. Couple of db. No one would notice.

The FCC is going to turn over 20 cw to rap music, and people
are worried about that?????

73 from grumpy old w8gnd

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 19:55:49 -0500
From: KD1YV <kd1yv@mindspring.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60932] Re: Post Foxhunt Lunacy
Message-ID: <3887AE95.6BD9B7F6@mindspring.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Maybe I'm being thick tonight, but how do I find, on very short notice, the
phase of the moon on my date of birth? I remember reading the paper that
day, but Dr. Alzheimer took away my recollection of the moon phase.
--
72/73 de Jim, KD1YV
I gotta' go outside to rotate the vertical antenna.

n5ib@juno.com wrote:

> The skies are clear here in Baton Rouge at 0030 Z, but it's COLD out
> there. BRRRR must be almost 40 degrees - don't know how long I can hold
> out   :^)   Gonna need my parka and long johnnies. Wonder if I can work a
> key with the electric ski gloves on??
>
> I'm off to the observatory in a few minutes. I'll try for a slice of
> Dan's pelt early and then move down below the pack and call "CQ LUNA"
>
> I plan to be on for a goodly while after the hunt is over, assuming
> there's calls to answer. SASE for a QSL with pictures of the eclipse from
> our telescope.
>
> remember the exchange:
> RST NAME MOON_PHASE_ON_DAY_OF_BIRTH
>
> Abbreviate the Moon phase thusly: NM = new Moon, WXC = waxing crescent,
> FQ = first quarter, WXG = waxing gibbous, FM = full Moon, WNG = waning
> gibbous, LQ = last quarter, WNC = waning crescent
>
> example: de W5YW 559 JIM FQ FQ (repeating that part is not a bad idea)

>
> So long, lunatics...they're coming to take me away ha ha... they're
> coming to ....
>
> Jim N5IB
>
> ____
> YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
> Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!
> Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
> http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj.

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 19:14:47 -0600
From: "Deitz, Harold L." <hdeitz@ms.rose.cc.ok.us>
To: "'qrp-l@lehigh.edu'" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [60933] FAA beacons
Message-ID: <0974781F4FC8D211A24600902727E80624E529@saturn.rose.cc.ok.us>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"

Fellow QRP'ers,

FAA, Washington, D.C. has gratiously agreed to send me a listing of all of the NDB and LOM frequencies and callsigns with their location and most transmitter power levels. LOM (Local Outer Marker) beacons operate in the same low frequency reagion as NDB's but are designed for very local operation and low power. That is why I can routinly copy them several hundred miles away with my super snooper Harris RF-590H receiver (and my Kenwood TS-450S) and my Hygain 18AVQ trap vertical. It consists of 50+ pages. I don't believe that I would care to copy this, but I would be happy to research any other beacons that might come up in the 160 meter band. I asked the FAA if they wanted to be informed of any more beacons we heard and they said, NO! They didn't want to know how bad their system really was.

Does anyone do anything with the 160-190 Khz band?

Hal - WB9VMY
Beacon Research Unlimited
Defender of Mortal Man
Pilot of Aircraft Yet to be Designed
Holder of Worked All Galaxies, All Bands 100 mW QRP certificate #1

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 19:31:57 -0500
From: Stuart Rohre <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: * qrp-l <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [60934] LIST: tech purpose, pls, Forum other
Message-ID: <3887A8FE.4E7E5D0A@arlut.utexas.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

For the poster who posted the "new ham radio application"

This list was founded as a Mainly technical discussion list on QRP, and why many are here.

We have already seen your humor? item elsewhere, leave it off list.

Please let us get back to Chuck's topics and main emphasis on TECHNICAL QRP, with minimal requotes, such as is requested by the Elecraft List.

Why don't folks use the QRP Forum on ARCI web site for chit chat and general stuff? It has seemed to echo this list, and not be providing as much of an outlet for grey area topics as it could and should be doing---

Thanks for your consideration and 72,
Stuart K5KVH
Austin TX

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 19:34:11 -0600
From: "Deitz, Harold L." <hdeitz@ms.rose.cc.ok.us>
To: "'qrp-l@lehigh.edu'" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [60935] QRP WAS, etc.
Message-ID: <0974781F4FC8D211A24600902727E80624E52A@saturn.rose.cc.ok.us>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"

Fellow QRP'ers,

The Thousand Oaks Wildlife and Environmental Refuge (T.O.W.E.R) has decided to offer a very nice, numbered certificate for WAS, WAC, and DXCC at QRP

levels as follows: 1000 mW, 100 mW, 10 mW and 1 mW. The requirements will be the same as for the similar ARRL certificates and a written affirmation that the contact was made with the power level that applies to the certificate.

Make application to: T.O.W.E.R., Rt 1 Box 7894, Chandler, OK. 74834-8951.

Who will be first to get certificate #1 ?

Hal - WB9VMY

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 20:51:07 EST
From: AlexQRP@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [60936] FS Radio Shack HTX-10
Message-ID: <14.400cd0.25b9158b@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang,,,,,,On a "whim" I purchased said radio. The 90 day warranty was up on Dec 31. I have absolutely no need for this piece of equipment.
     For Sale:: (1) RS HTX10, includes prepaid 3 year extended warranty, installed{and working!) Communications Specialists SS-64 Tone Encoder(dip switch programmable).Includes Box, Power cord,mike, mtg bracket, etc etc. No haggle price of $150 in the form of a money order, Gold Bullion etc etc, and I will pay UPS in lower 48 states upon receipt of $$.
     Thanks Alex K5UNY Dallas 972-243-3655 or email me direct.

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 20:53:49 -0500
From: Stuart Rohre <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: * qrp-l <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [60937] To ground your antenna or not? (long)
Message-ID: <3887BC2F.F6362E6A@arlut.utexas.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

One of the recurring confusion factors in ham radio is what to do about station grounding. Recent discussions have shown once again how confusing this all can be to new hams (or old)!

In general, grounding to earth is done to lessen danger of electrical shock due to problems with AC powered equipment. It is to put the chassis of the radio equipment at the same zero potential as the earth pin of the AC supply, subject to ohmic factors giving rise to a voltage gradient from the AC mains earth to any separate radio earth point. (AND this can be the cause of serious problems if lightning hits.) Bonding of all earth rods or halo wires, radials, etc. seeks to equalize lighting fault voltage potential differences, although at the extreme voltages and currents of direct hits, most materials used by hams at home are of doubtful suitability to dissipate a direct hit without subtantial collateral damage to both equipment, grounding means, and possibly the structure. In any gathering of hams, there will be a couple or more who have tales of damage, in spite of ground rods.

In all cases of woe I have heard, there was knowlege of storms being likely, and there were feedlines left connected to antennas, and into the shack, and computers and radios were plugged into AC power, but often turned off. I unplug from antennas and AC at all times except when operating, and have had close calls, but radios survived.
Same for the club station I maintain at the local Red Cross Chapter, (everything unplugs after use.) And we try to keep AC connections away from antenna cables, as after a lightning bolt has traveled 10 miles down throught the air, is that one foot between your AC and coax going to look like high impedance? At Red Cross, we have a 60 foot grounded tower. Above the triband beam, and stacked 2M Yagis, is a low band ground plane for the Red Cross VHF frequency. It has been seen to act as a lightning rod in numerous storms, and has finally shown problems, even though its tallest part is a grounded folded unipole element. (One side grounded as are the radials). When it is replaced, we plan to try a dissipating top hat on the new antenna.

No one who has a grounded antenna feed entry panel, and who removes equipment from connection to AC power seems to get hit. Their grounded tower outside may, but if they have a mast or dissipation array atop the tower it may discharge a buildup safely without any other problems.

Now if you live in a poor RF ground area, which also often means a poor AC ground area, you may get multiple hits or annual hits. (been there as 9M2SM in the tropics!)

But, to confuse the issue, some antennas are incomplete radiators as usually built, and in a rather few "good RF ground" areas of the earth, may work better when operated with a physical earth connection under them. The quarter wave vertical element or mobile whip is the usual example of this.

Areas where earth is not useful to lauching RF waves include desert soils, jungle soils in equatorial regions and rainforests, rocky outcrop regions of non conductive material, and any areas of low ground conductivity. Mountainous areas where you are up on the rocky outcrop suffer as well. Your good elevation may mask the problems in this case.

Antennas to avoid in such areas are any of the unbalanced, non-dipole type antennas. These would include quarter wave verticals, so called "long wires", short random wires, and in general any antenna that works best when adding radials, counterpoises, or a ground plane. If you can add an adequate reference plane for such antennas they can work well. But that takes extra work in RF poor ground areas, unless you live by a body of water. Quarter wave Verticals over salt water edge have won DX contests in tropical areas. I am not saying the unbalanced antenna will not work, it will just work so much better if an RF ground is provided effectively with them.

Antennas that are earth independent are of course the balanced antennas such as dipoles, Extended double Zepps, Yagi beams, and quads, loops, vertical half wave vertical dipoles, half squares, rectangles, Hentennas, etc. Note that I am saying balanced when looking at the antenna itself. You may be feeding a balanced antenna with an unbalanced feedline, such as coax to a horizontal half wave dipole.
Another way to think of "balanced" antennas is to consider that it is an antenna with two elements connected to the feed, and well independent of earth, or a full wave or less, element in a loop or closed geometric form. (includes loop like antennas) Note that Fractal antennas can be earth independent if made up of symmetrical parts, and symmetry is a feature of balanced antennas in this context.

If you want mainly Near Vertical Incidence, in state coverage, you may want to put a near ground element wire under a balanced half wave horizontal dipole. Thus, extra RF grounds may be used with balanced antennas for specialized pattern control.

For good DX, you may want to elevate a quarter wave vertical and provide elevated radials for it.

Thus, grounding serves in the first case to alter a pattern for an already complete dipole antenna. In the second, the radials complete the "missing half" of the vertical, since its element was only a quarter wave. Neither case serves the lightning protection function.

All cases considered here are dealing with near fields of the antennas, and other effects of type of earth enter in further out from any antenna. Thus, to "ground" or reference at your antenna or not should address two needs, RF circuit completion and charge buildup dissipation that will assist with lightning concerns.

Now a side point on safety grounds. In the local area, there is about half of the utility's service area that is over shallow soil on rock, where driving earthing rods vertically works only for 18 inches. Thus, they did some computer studies of great use to hams. An effective safety earth can be created with an alternate to ground rods. This would be 200 feet of at least

no. 10 wire or larger, buried as deep as practical around the structure to be protected. The charge dissipation concept is to have a circle of this wire for charges to enter earth over a distributed area. The 25 ohm substation ground standard can be met in the worst areas for conductivity, and of course use of more conductors can bring earth resistance down to a more desirable 5 to 10 ohm value. The measurement is done by the three prong 'fall of potential' method recently discussed. Incidentally, for those asking how this is done, it was covered in the last few years of the ARRL Handbook or Antenna book, another good reason to renew your technical library with updated Handbooks! You can build your own fall of potential measuring rods, and use a lamp bulb to limit the 60 Hz current used for injection in the soil to be measured. An AC voltmeter/ Ammeter and Ohm's Law completes your tools.

Hope this clarifies the various purposes grounding may play with various antennas and their location.

72,
Stuart Rohre
K5KVH, Austin TX

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 19:53:36 -0700
From: "Howard Myers" <howardw7ilw@cableone.net>
To: hdeitz@ms.rose.cc.ok.us, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [60938] Re: FAA beacons
Message-ID: <0ab150055021510CIS10@mail2.cableone.net>
Mime-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Hal,

I have a 100 mw beacon, "HM", on 187.37 kHz.

Howard -W7ILW - Prescott, AZ

> Fellow QRP'ers,
>
> FAA, Washington, D.C. has gratiously agreed to send me a listing of all of
> the NDB and LOM frequencies and callsigns with their location and most
> transmitter power levels. LOM (Local Outer Marker) beacons operate in the
> same low frequency reagion as NDB's but are designed for very local
> operation and low power. That is why I can routinly copy them several
> hundred miles away with my super snooper Harris RF-590H receiver (and my
> Kenwood TS-450S) and my Hygain 18AVQ trap vertical. It consists of 50+
> pages. I don't believe that I would care to copy this, but I would be happy

> to research any other beacons that might come up in the 160 meter band. I
> asked the FAA if they wanted to be informed of any more beacons we heard and
> they said, NO! They didn't want to know how bad their system really was.
>
> Does anyone do anything with the 160-190 Khz band?
>
> Hal - WB9VMY
> Beacon Research Unlimited
> Defender of Mortal Man
> Pilot of Aircraft Yet to be Designed
> Holder of Worked All Galaxies, All Bands 100 mW QRP certificate #1
>
>

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 03:13:15 +0000
From: wb2vuo@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [60939] Wilderness KC-2 and "Big Rigs"
Message-ID: <20000121.031318.-78931.0.wb2vuo@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have a local that is looking to put a "Digital Dial" in a Yaesu FT-301
(QRP of course!)

Looking at Widerness's homepage, I think that he KC-2 will fit the bill,
but wonder if anyone else had installed one in the "BigRig" or built in
in a separate box for such a purpose. If so, are there any particular
hard spots that I should know about?

I will probably be the party to build the KC-2 or whatever digital
display is finally used as the ham athat needs this is
physically-impaired and has requested help on this project. His option
is to get a different rig, and the K2 is out of reach of his fixed
income.

Direct replies to wb2vuo@arrl.net please.

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, 100% QRP from the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp
VP & FD'00 Chairman, Brockport Amateur Radio Klub
My night light runs more power than my Rig!!!
Replies off-list to: wb2vuo@arrl.net

_____
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Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 20:24:53 -0700
From: Tim Pettibone <k5oi@zianet.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [60940] two pelts!
Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.20000120202453.0079e750@zianet.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Golly, worked both the FOX and the LUNATIC Jim, N5IB opertating K5YW at LSU's observatory. Jim is at around 7.037 and I worked Dan split on 7.040.78 - him and 7.041.55 - me. My antenna works a lot better when the feedline is attached to the dipole portion!

Tim K5OI
Las Cruces, NM

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 03:31:20 -0500
From: Richard Arland <k7sz@epix.net>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [60941] NT0Z's Stealth Amateur Radio
Message-ID: <38881958.A5568BAF@epix.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang:

I recently received my advanced copy of Kirk Kleinschmidt's, NT0Z, new ARRL book, "Stealth Amateur Radio".

This posting is not intended to be a review (that is for someone else on this list to undertake), but I do want to bring this new ARRL title to your collective attention.

Kirk's new book is a much enlarged and updated version of Jim Kearman's, KR1S, book, "Low Profile Amateur Radio" which has been out of print for

several years.

Stealth Amateur Radio has eight chapters dealing with such topics as Stealth Radio 101, Home is Where You Find Your Rig, Antenna Systems and Components, Stealth Antennas, Close Quarters: Handling Interference, Radio in Motion, and Radio Destinations.

In all, Stealth Amateur Radio is a welcome addition to the QRPers library, as Kirk constantly refers to QRP operation as a viable alternative when faced with restrictive antenna covenants and clandestine operating locations.

It's a good read and Kirk did his homework. $14.95 direct from the League or at most ARRL stocking publications dealers.

73 Rich K7SZ

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 22:31:50 -0500
From: "Dave Benham" <dodgeboy@mindspring.com>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60942] OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
Message-ID: <012e01bf63c0$0eeac200$f8b4aec7@hqa.chrysler.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have some older seldom used equipment that have developed some scratchiness in the switches and pots. What is the best spray cleaner to clean them so I hopefully don't have to remove them and put them in the ultrasonic cleaner? Maybe I should have asked what is the best METHOD to clean them without disassembly? I have tried some RS stuff that doesn't really do the job -- better but still scratchy after spraying.

Thanks for any help.

Dave K8TRF

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 20:01:14 -0800
From: "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@dospalos.org>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [60943] Pixie
Message-ID: <024e01bf63c4$2b0ee700$8e7d68cf@DougHendricks>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The Pixie was designed by Dave Joseph, WA6BOY. The only source that he authorized to kit the design was HSC. They still carry the kits. The other source that you mentioned did not have permission to kit the copyrighted design and name. 72, Doug, KI6DS

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 23:19:52 -0500
From: "T.J. \"SKIP\" Arey N2EI" <tjarey@home.com>
To: "qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60944] Re: A follow-up post on article copyright
Message-ID: <3887DE68.7D08E358@home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I just want to make sure I didn't give anybody the wrong idea. I am not questioning the ARRL rights policy. I can't question it because I've never seen it. I only know about magazines I have written for. These would include Monitoring Times, Popular Communications and a few others. In the case of the places I have been published, the publisher specifically purchased what is known as First North American Rights. My personal experience with QST and League publication staff has always led me to believe that the folks in Newington are a "Stand Up" bunch and I'd be proud to see something I wrote in the pages of QST and anywhere else the League wanted it to go. I''m not a life member for nothing, ya know!!!
--
++

  T.J. "SKIP" AREY N2EI   e-mail tjarey@home.com

     Website   http://members.home.net/tjarey

     Snail Mail: PO Box 236, Beverly, NJ 08010

   Specialization is for insects!   LAZARUS LONG

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 23:28:50 EST
From: HWRM1SS@aol.com

To: njqrp@njqrp.org, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [60945] Ham Radio Books
Message-ID: <25.e45d70.25b93a82@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Fellow QRPers,

As far as purchasing books on amateur radio subjects... Please do not forget that many ARRL titles (and others) are available at amazon.com. ... 30% is quite a savings over paying retail and ridiculous shipping fees. And of course they ship most titles within 24 hours...

not a commercial
Just a satisfied customer

Howard K3HW

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 20:31:10 -0800
From: "Tom Scott" <tscott@eni.net>
To: "'qrp-l Reflector'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60946] Clarification: getting QRP students onto HF under new rules...
Message-ID: <000201bf63c8$7235ca00$bc403604@wyle.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I thought I had better follow-up with the group with this information that I have just received from Bart Jahnke W9JJ who is the ARRL VEC Manager (see below). He indicates that he has spoken a Mr. William Cross, the FCC staffer who drafted the recent FCC restructuring Report and Order, and that the issue I was concerned about is being handled the way that I had hoped it would be. This is apparently not a change but their original intent all along. :)

We discussed the fact that there is much confusion over this, even at the ARRL headquarters where a staffer in the ARRL licensing information office told me differently. Hopefully the FCC will issue some sort of clarifying statement, but the new section 97.301e is to be interpreted to mean that BOTH existing Technicians AND Technicians who receive their licenses after the new rules take effect on April 15th, will be able to gain access to what has been known as the "Novice HF bands" by simply having passed a 5 wpm test. There will be no Technician Plus license, you will still hold a license that says Technician, but if you can show proof that you have passed

a 5 wpm cw test, it will not be a violation to use any of the existing Technician Plus privileges.

I think this is very good news. I will make it much more practical to expect my high school QRP Elmer 101 students to gain privileges on HF in a one semester course.

Thanks for the bandwidth.

- Tom

_/

?Tom Scott - Wyle Electronics - KD7DMH

10300 SW Nimbus Ave #PB, Portland, OR 97223

503-603-1931 - Tel 503-684-6620 - Fax

503-703-2032 - Cell

_/

-----Original Message-----
From: Jahnke, Bart, W9JJ [mailto:bjahnke@arrl.org]
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2000 6:51 PM
To: 'Tom Scott '; Jahnke, Bart, W9JJ
Cc: Hogerty, Tom, KC1J; Hennessee, John, N1KB
Subject: RE: Concerns about getting new students into Amateur Service under new rules.

Thanks for the reply, Tom.
If there was confusion, let me clear it up with this reply. On three different occasions I've had opportunity to discuss this issue with William Cross of the FCC, the FCC staffer who drafted the R&O. Not from whether a new Tech on/after 4/15 can get access to HF by passing a code test (the new section 97.301e handles that just fine), but whether the newly earned code credit on/after 4/15 can be used for an upgrade to General say 15 months later-after the CSCE had expired. The Commission's response was that the code credit gave the Technician indefinite access to the Novice/Tech HF bands, but it did not convey code credit toward an upgrade once the CSCE had expired after 365 days. That to me is a problem that needs to be addressed.
Again, whether on 4/15, or today, a Technician who passes a code test will gain access to the Novice/Tech HF bands.
In another example, a newly licensed Technician who coincidentally holds a current (or expired less than 5 years) FCC Commercial RadioTELEGRAPH license or permit also gets access to the Novice/Tech HF bands because this too meets the requirements of 97.301e.
Sorry that the earlier information you received was not clear on this point.
73, Bart Jahnke W9JJ, Manager ARRL VEC
-----Original Message-----
From: Tom Scott
To: 'Jahnke, Bart, W9JJ'

Sent: 1/20/2000 05:38 PM
Subject: RE: Concerns about getting new students into Amateur Service under
     new rules.

Bart,

Thanks for responding.
I think the report and order is ambiguous on this point, and there seems to be much disagreement about what it means. I just called the ARRL licensing information office and spoke with Tom - KC1J on the subject. He is of the opinion as I was originally that the report and order only extends this HF privilege to existing Tech+ and Novice license holders, grandfathering their existing privileges. He says - and I believe the report and order can certainly be interepreted this way - new techs will be no-code only and will have to pass both the General and 5wpm tests to gain access to HF.
If this is a mistaken understanding, it is a very commonly held misunderstanding, even at the ARRL's licensing office, one that at the very least requires clarification.
Thanks! 73
* Tom
_/
?Tom Scott   -   Wyle Electronics   -   KD7DMH
10300 SW Nimbus Ave #PB, Portland, OR 97223
503-603-1931 - Tel   503-684-6620 - Fax
503-703-2032 - Cell
_/

-----Original Message-----
From: Jahnke, Bart, W9JJ [mailto:bjahnke@arrl.org]
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2000 2:27 PM
To: 'Tom Scott '; reginfo
Cc: VEC; 'scout@arrl.org '
Subject: RE: Concerns about getting new students into Amateur
     Service under
     new rules.

Tom, on or after April 15th, a non-amateur can pass a 35-question test based on the present Novice/Technician study material to become a Technician (30 MHz and above privileges). Just like today that Technician can subsequently, or at the same time, pass a 5 WPM Morse code test and gain access to the current Novice/Tech HF bands, including 28.3-28.5 MHz.
See new FCC Rules Section 97.301(e) as discussed in the Report and Order which specifies what Novices or Technician's who have passed a Morse code test can do.
Perhaps I've misunderstood your concern?
73, Bart Jahnke, W9JJ Manager ARRL VEC
-----Original Message-----

From: Tom Scott
To: reginfo@arrl.org
Cc: vec@arrl.org; scout@arrl.org
Sent: 1/20/2000 04:16 PM
Subject: Concerns about getting new students into Amateur Service under new rules.

Mr. Hennessee,
I have one concern about the new license restructuring that concerns getting young people into the amateur service. I believe that an unintended consequence of the new report and order makes this more difficult and want to urgently request that the ARRL petition the FCC for a clarification that would rectify this.
I am preparing to teach a high school amateur radio course this coming school year in which the students will build an HF QRP radio kit, study for and earn their amateur radio license and get on the air on HF CW. Under the existing licensing structure, the Novice class made this relatively easy, requiring one written test and one 5 wpm test. Under the new restructuring it would appear that existing Tech+ and Novice class license holders would be grandfathered to include the existing HF privileges, but new Techs would be required to pass both the Technician test and the General test in addition to 5wpm cw to get on HF, making it a farily daunting accomplishment for a new young would-be ham.
Please see my letter to the FCC commissioners below and some comments I've received on it having posted a copy of this to the very active QRPl email reflector. I have received no dissent in any comment to this posting, an unprecedented level of consensus amongst our community.
I urge the ARRL to petition the FCC to consider this very minor tweak of the new report and order. It could almost consist of issuing a statement of clarification of intent with no rewording of the rules; a "to eliminate any confusion, this is what the new rules were intended to mean".
I don't believe it was the intent of the FCC to make it more difficult for young people to join the ranks of amateurs in the HF bands, but this seems to be an un-intended consequence of the new rules. I spoke with Tom - KC1J at the ARRL to confirm my reading of the report and order, so if I am mistaken about the effect that it will have, I am not alone in reading it this way. I just can't believe that the FCC intended to make it this difficult for us to bring newbies, especially young people into HF.
Thank you very much for your consideration!
73
* Tom

_/
?Tom Scott - Wyle Electronics - KD7DMH
10300 SW Nimbus Ave #PB, Portland, OR 97223
503-603-1931 - Tel 503-684-6620 - Fax
503-703-2032 - Cell
_/

>My Comments to the FCC:
>I have a comment about what I believe may have been an un-intended
>consequence of the recent Amateur Radio License restructuring.
>
>First let me say that in general I think the changes are warranted and
may
>bring in many new radio amateurs especially like myself those from the
ranks
>of working electronics engineers for whom Morse Code was an impediment.
The
>only concern I have about the change is the new impediment it creates
for
>entry level people, especially young people.
>
>I am going to be teaching a high school level Amateur Radio and QRP
class
>next year at a local small Christian high school where my son attends.
We
>expect to have about 12 students who will learn about amateur radio,
study
>morse code, and build a low power HF CW transceiver and get on the air.
The
>final exam for the course will consist of passing the FCC license exam,
>successfully building the single board transceiver kit, and have a QSO
with
>me on the air. Unfortunately-as I understand the new licensing
>structure-this will now require TWO written tests as well as the 5 wpm
CW
>test to be able to use CW on HF (probably 40m). Under the old system
the
>Novice class license was an ideal entry level for young people wanting
to
>get started in Amateur Radio, consisting of a simpler written test and
5wpm
>and earning them limited access to HF. Novice was a perfect way to get
>started. We could start with the Technician license now, but the
written
>test has traditionally been more challenging, and the higher frequency
of
>VHF / UHF radios, as well as the complexity of FM (the dominant mode)
makes
>them more challenging to build than a kit for an HF CW QRP radio. I can
>provide an entire Amateur Radio class with the HF kit for about a $30
to
$50
>lab fee. I'm sure you will agree that getting a dozen new young people

into
>amateur radio would be a good thing, but I'm very concerned that the
new
>licensing structure will make that much more difficult.
>
>As a suggestion, Perhaps you could modify it just slightly to allow the
>technician license access to the old Novice bands of HF if they pass
the 5
>wpm test, without really creating another class of license. In other
words,
>the Technician Class License would have only VHF and UHF privileges
unless
>the holder also passed the 5wpm CW test, in which case they would gain
>access to what used to be known as the Novice HF bands for CW.
>
>Thank you very much for your consideration. I realize you are probably
>inundated with all manner of feedback on the recent changes, some of it
>probably quite irate, so I understand that it is asking a lot to
request a
>response to this letter, but I would be extremely interested in your
>feedback to this issue. I don't think anyone wants to inhibit the
entrance
>of young people into the ranks of Amateur Radio, but the new changes
will
>I'm afraid have that unintended consequence.
>
>Respectfully,
>
>Tom Scott, KD7DMH

-----Original Message-----
From: Ed Tanton [mailto:n4xy@att.net]
Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2000 3:29 PM
To: tscott@eni.net
Subject: RE: Letter to the FCC, not I believe O.T....

Good shot Tom... I was thinking something similar, that they should have
KEPT the Novice license, but your idea, of a 2-part license level makes
plenty of sense, and wuld be easier to implement. Good job.
Ed Tanton N4XY <n4xy@arrl.net>
Website: www.qsl.net/n4xy
"Do what's right. You'll please some people, and amaze everyone else."
Mark Twain
Tom, and Fellow QRPers,
Good letter. You may be interested in http://www.qsl.net/n5lf/, where there
is a VERY VERY well written petition of reconsideration to the FCC's recent
report and order on Amateur restructuring. I've printed it and have created
a page with signature slots, and am going to let people sign it at an

upcoming swapfest Albuquerque is having.
Check out the page and perhaps separately mention this petition when sending your letter to the FCC. Spread the word about the petition, too, and don't waste too much time since the commenting period ends in the beginning of February.
72,
Brian, N5ZGT
Tom,
Very well put. I hope that the commissionors will seriously consider this.
Best of luck with your class. Let the list know how it goes.
72/73
Randy K4EZM
Tom:
I was ready to tell you that your posting was, for sure, OT, and to take it to another list. But, I read it carefully and have to agree with you.
I'm
going to make the same suggestion to the FCC (and ARRL). I really don't want to see another thread go on and on on QRP-L and that's why I'm just sending to you. But, just in case you get a lot of flak over this,
there
are some of us that agree with you.
Tim K5OI
Las Cruces, NM

p.s. Another strategy would be to promote cw on 2m/440. I used to run a weekly code practice session on our local 2m repeater. That was 20+ years ago. I still get hams telling me that's how they upgraded back then!
Tom, I read your very good letter to the FCC and I agree whole hearted. We do need the novice class and prividledge desperately. I have never written the Fcc although I have been a ham since 1951. I plan to do so on this. I just need to get going on it. By the way I do not understand the abbreviation   O.T.
    Thanks   Hal K5JMI

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 23:46:05 -0500
From: w2xn@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [60947] Fox Hunt
Message-ID: <20000120.234606.-789595.1.w2xn@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dan,

Thanks for being the fox tonite. You did a great job. Your signal was pretty weak here at my location in FL (between Orlando and Tampa)with my vertical, but I could hear you well enuf to make contact. Thanks for your patience to make my contact, you must have great ears.

Fred W2XN   w2xn@arrl.net
Lakeland, FL
W5YI-VE   Skywarn #POL-007   Polk County ARES
AR QRP #233   QRP-L #1728   NJ-QRP #197   ZOMBIE #709

_____
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Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 20:51:15 -0800
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@netzero.net>
To: Low Power Amateru Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Cc: we6w@netzero.net
Subject: [60948] Line Loss Measurements.
Message-ID: <3887E5C3.7A404ECD@netzero.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi qrp-l'ers. The foxhunt was fun and after I bagged
him, I unbagged some more computer ribbon cable
for some loss measurements at 30 MHz.

What: Standard multi-colored computer ribbon cable.
Colors: Orange/Yellow -- Like that matters -har!

Test setup: 270 Ohm resistors at input of
cable. RF Siggen at input with Probe 'A' to o-scope.
270 Ohm resistor at end of 2 conductor ribbon line.
O-scope probe B at end.

Length of ribbon cable is 37.5 feet.
(Note: I verified probe "A" and "B" were matched in
their readings on the scope prior to the test.)

Results:
----------Vpp   Vrms   Power

INPUT===>3.0   1.0608   .00041677 W
OUTPUT=> 2.5   0.884   .0028943 W

Voltage formula; Rin=Rout
20*log(.884/1.0608)=-1.6 dB (loss)
-- Or Power formula for check:
10*log(.0028943/.00041677)=-1.6dB (loss)

Summary for equivalent 100 Feet feedlines:
R/S 300 Ohm, brown - 1.86 dB/100 Feet@ 30 MHz.
Comp. ribbon line   - 4.27 dB/100 Feet @ 30 MHz.

Maybe it is time for some teflon coated twisted feedline
like I use. Hmmm. I'll go check it out.

72/Ed we6w

--
72/Ed we6w; AR Millennium Q's=>2479/2000 A-1 OP
http://www.qsl.net/we6w Santa Rosa, CA
QRP-Z#106 AR#112 HI#64 ARCI#9397 ARS#275 QRPL#1068 NC#2227

____
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Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 22:18:22 -0700 (MST)
From: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
To: Brad Hernlem <alihernlem@hotmail.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60949] Re: Very High Speed Op-Amps
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.4.10.10001201230490.26495-100000@shell.rt66.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Wed, 19 Jan 2000, Brad Hernlem wrote:
> Dear QRP-ers,
>
> Would any of you like to make suggestions for high bandwidth (i.e. >= 100
> MHz) op-amps for HB RF applications? What would be good for constructing RF
> active filters? Which are readily available (and hopefully cheap(ish))?

There are several high bandwidth op amps on the street and fairly easy to get from the hobby vendors. You would want a bandwidth of at least 100MHz if using with an IF frequency we normall use on HF (<10-12MHz). The "OP" series of opamps are in this range.

We use tons of high bandwidth opamps at the radio observatory for low pass filters, which are selectable from 62KHz to 32MHz in octave steps. This is done by using analog switches, similar to the 4066, to switch in the proper resistances for the desired bandwidth. They use the equal capacitor method of tuning.

We use the Analog Devices NE5539, which are also made by Signetics, or Philips as they are known today. The Analog Devices ones are more phase stable above 15-20 MHz, while the Philips ones exhibit different phase shifts at a given frequency from unit to unit. But likely, most QRP applications would use them at IF frequencies below 20MHz. The varying phase shift thing just means you need to tweak each stage one-by-one to get the poles at the proper frequency, instead of just plopping the same values for R and C and hoping it all works :-(

It is quite impressive looking at the roll-off of these filters at say, 16MHz for a 4-stage filter ... and NO inductors! It is really worth some experimentation.

72, Paul NA5N

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 21:46:52 -0800
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@netzero.net>
To: Low Power Amateru Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, we6w@netzero.net
Subject: [60950] Re: Line Loss Measurements.
Message-ID: <3887F2CC.BA2B8781@netzero.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Time for the drum roll, radadada......

37.5 feet of #22 AWG teflon coated wire, twisted with a drill (clockwise :) And pulled tight to prevent unravelling.

Ein=3.0 Volts p-p; Eout=2.9 Volts p-p.

Same test setup as before.

Loss of 37.5 Feet of cable is 0.294 dB
Projected loss for 100 feet is:0.784 dB

Yowza! Good stuff. 72/Ed we6w

Ed Loranger wrote:

> Hi qrp-l'ers. The foxhunt was fun and after I bagged
> him, I unbagged some more computer ribbon cable
> for some loss measurements at 30 MHz.
>
> What: Standard multi-colored computer ribbon cable.
> Colors: Orange/Yellow -- Like that matters -har!
>
> Test setup: 270 Ohm resistors at input of
> cable. RF Siggen at input with Probe 'A' to o-scope.
> 270 Ohm resistor at end of 2 conductor ribbon line.
> O-scope probe B at end.
>
> Length of ribbon cable is 37.5 feet.
> (Note: I verified probe "A" and "B" were matched in
> their readings on the scope prior to the test.)
>
> Results:
> -------------Vpp   Vrms   Power
> INPUT===>3.0   1.0608   .00041677 W
> OUTPUT=> 2.5   0.884   .0028943 W
>
> Voltage formula; Rin=Rout
> 20*log(.884/1.0608)=-1.6 dB (loss)
> -- Or Power formula for check:
> 10*log(.0028943/.00041677)=-1.6dB (loss)
>
> Summary for equivalent 100 Feet feedlines:
> R/S 300 Ohm, brown - 1.86 dB/100 Feet@ 30 MHz.
> Comp. ribbon line   - 4.27 dB/100 Feet @ 30 MHz.
>
> Maybe it is time for some teflon coated twisted feedline
> like I use. Hmmm. I'll go check it out.
>
> 72/Ed we6w
>
> --
> 72/Ed we6w; AR Millennium Q's=>2479/2000 A-1 OP

> http://www.qsl.net/we6w Santa Rosa, CA
> QRP-Z#106 AR#112 HI#64 ARCI#9397 ARS#275 QRPL#1068 NC#2227

--
72/Ed we6w; AR Millennium Q's=>2479/2000 A-1 OP
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QRP-Z#106 AR#112 HI#64 ARCI#9397 ARS#275 QRPL#1068 NC#2227

_____
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Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 00:49:07 EST
From: n5ib@juno.com
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.edu
Subject: [60951] Re: Post Foxhunt Lunacy
Message-ID: <20000120.234413.4679.0.N5IB@juno.com>

Very nice eclipse viewing here. Made several contacts, some quick,
fox-hunt sytle with list members, other longer rag chews with random
callers, but spent more time telling visiting folks (and lots of kids)
about ham radio. The kids were fascinated by morse, especially the girls
who had seen Titanic. At least two inactive hams dropped by to watch and
I think got the flame rekindled.

It was cold for our neck of the woods, down to mid 30's by 10 pm or so.
Now I'm not so sure I have it in me for FYBO. I was in my long undies,
hooded coat, gloves, etc and still had stiff fingers on the J-38.

the W5YW log:

K8BZB
VE5RC
K1JD
WA9PWP
AF4PP
KB2UZM
K5OI
KE9IJ
W9BL

73 all and thanks to those who dropped by...

Jim N5IB

_____
YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!
Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj.

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 01:44:18 EST
From: DYARNES@aol.com
To: jhw@rti.org, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [60952] Re: Portable CD-Player/Cassette Adapter
Message-ID: <b0.701958.25b95a42@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi All,

I have used the tape deck insert type, but find them something of a problem at times. The small FM band transmitters are much easier to deal with, and I use these both in the car for mobile HF activity (mostly CW) and in the shack. In the vehicle I play it through the car radio. In the shack I use a FM headset radio. There are several versions of this item out there for $20 or less. For a long time Target had a good one for about $17.

Recently I have been using one of the 900 mhz units. Radio Shack had one on sale (an RCA model) for about $50, and it really works well. The biggest problem is that you can only use their earphones, but these happen to be pretty good. The really great thing about 900 mhz units is that you can go all over the house and still hear your QSO. This is terrific when you want to go get a cup of coffee or make a quick trip to the "library"!!

All of these work, and they come in handy sometimes. If you don't have one or more of these gadgets, you should give it serious consideration.

72 de Dave W7AQK

Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2000 23:23:23 -0800
From: Dan Presley <talljazz@teleport.com>
To: qrp-l@LeHigh.edu
Subject: [60953] fox 1/21-lessons learned
Message-ID: <v03007808b4adb29d6508@[216.26.3.224]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

My thanks and apologies to all you hunters out there for your patience in the hunt. I experienced a number of problems mostly of my own doing, but still managed to have fun and work a few. I think I experienced all possible conditions and phenomena including qrm, qrn (local and natural), severe qsb, and operator meltdown.
Lesson #1- adjust your paddles! No excuses here-I should have checked my Norcal paddle before the hunt, and tightened all the adjustments so it wouldn't slip. Of course, it continued to act up throughout, and funny thing-the harder I slammed the paddles together, the worse it got!
Lesson #2-know your radio! I've had this rig for at least 2 years, but there were still some things that popped up- I need to learn to use the RF gain control and turn off the agc as I experienced severe 'pumping' of strong stations a couple of Khz away through the filters, which really messed up a lot of the hunters in my recieve. I'd never had that happen on this rig (Ten Tec Corsair II). Any ideas how to help this? I also used my outboard vfo instead of the rit to tune above & below my freq-not sure if this was a good idea.
For you hunters- many guys were still bunched up , and don't hesitate to spread out a bit more. I ended up listening more on the low side partly due to less qrm. I also found it much easier to pick up those who varied their speed from the 'pack', either up or down; helped to make them stand out. I also had problems with guys sending calls when I asked for a specific repeat or trying to get a full call when I caught only the last part-if the fox calls "XZ?", and your call is "AB" (unless it's AB-XZ), don't repeat your call-only slows up the game.
Some of this is inevitable when you have a lot of stations, and I've done my share of it when hunting the fox, but it helps to be a bit patient.
Again, thanks to all for participating, and I sure learned a few lessons all over again! I'll post the log shortly. Thanks to KA7OZO for hosting me at his station with the big array and hospitality! Also thanks to Walt W8CV for swapping dates with me (he's next week).

Dan Presley-N7CQR-Portland, Or QRP-L #502

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 18:57:14 +1100
From: "Ian C. Purdie VK2TIP" <ianpurdie@integritynet.com.au>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60954] Re: Very High Speed Op-Amps
Message-ID: <3888115A.5EC8DA8A@integritynet.com.au>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"Paul Harden, NA5N" wrote:

> There are several high bandwidth op amps on the street and fairly easy
> to get from the hobby vendors. You would want a bandwidth of at least
> 100MHz if using with an IF frequency we normall use on HF (<10-12MHz).
> The "OP" series of opamps are in this range.

This is so exciting I could almost "wet" myself. Sorry for that, but this topic sets me alight - seems I've been in "Rip-Van-Winkle Land".

Hey! this is my "thing". I'll suck up all the information of offer.

--
72/73's

Ian Purdie Budgewoi N.S.W. Australia - Co-ords 33o:14' S 151o:34' E
My FREE Newsletter:- mailto:vk2tip@qsl.net?Subject=Subscribe
VK2TIP "I'll give you the TIP mate" QRP-L member #1978.
URL - http://www.integritynet.com.au/~purdic/

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 00:54:00 -0800
From: "Tom Scott" <tscott@eni.net>
To: <leon_heller@hotmail.com>, "'qrp-l Reflector'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60955] RE: AD8361 - followup, no-see-um parts!
Message-ID: <000401bf63ed$106c5f80$e7543604@wyle.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Re: "I designed a little adapter PCB for the similar small package AD9850 DDS
chip, that bought the pins out to staggered 0.5" spacing pads."

I've been thinking that a pretty cool project would be for someone to get Far Circuits to make up a large PCB with a whole slew of these "smaller than rice" footprints, bringing them out to something hand-solderable. The idea would be that the the individual footprints could be cut out of the sheet as needed and glued down to copper-clad for "ugly style" construction projects. The point being that if you do a whole sheet on one board, they get pretty cheap. There is a company that sells these in a few varieties in little plastic bags of onesy twosy quantities for prices that would suggest they're made of diamonds and gold! Anybody with a PCB design software package interested in taking this up?

If Far Circuits made such a thing, I'd buy one just to have it around for when I needed it. No holes needed, single sided, keeps the costs down. But it does need to be high resolution etching, don't know if Far is up to that or not.

Oh, and as far as soldering the little no-see-ums down to that carrier, HP has a pretty interesting app-note on their web site for soldering surface mount parts like this.

In a nut-shell, they suggest that you rig a hot plate with a heat spreader plate at a temperature just a few degrees shy of solder melting point, then you spread solder paste onto the board, stick the part onto the paste. You place that on the hot plate for a few minutes, and once the whole board is pre-heated, you use a heat gun blower to raise the temperature the last few degrees selectively watching under a magnifier to see the solder paste flow.

I haven't tried it, but it sounds like it just might work.

- Tom

_/

?Tom Scott - Wyle Electronics - KD7DMH

10300 SW Nimbus Ave #PB, Portland, OR 97223

503-603-1931 - Tel 503-684-6620 - Fax

503-703-2032 - Cell

_/

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of Leon Heller
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2000 12:55 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: AD8361 - followup

>Right after my post to Jim WD9EYB, and the rest of the group, I received my
>sample and "cookbook" for the AD8631 Tru Power Detection IC. I work in
>the
>printed circuit design/fabrication industry and have worked with surface
>mount technology for years, but this part is SMALL! I'm not sure that this
>part can be "hot wired" with flying leads as the legs are just too small.
>How ironic, we pushed for years to miniature-ize, and now it's too small!
>It ain't over yet though, so I'll keep the group posted.
>

I designed a little adapter PCB for the similar small package AD9850 DDS chip, that bought the pins out to staggered 0.5" spacing pads. Something similar could be done for the AD8361.

73, Leon

Leon Heller, G1HSM
Tel (work): +44 1327 357824 Tel (mobile): +44 79 9098 1221
InfraRed Integrated Systems Ltd., Towcester Mill, Towcester, Northants.,
NN12 6AD, United Kingdom.
Email:leon_heller@hotmail.com
Web page: http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Code/1835

_____
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Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 09:11:00 -0800
From: "Richard Williams" <richard.a.williams@attcanada.net>
To: <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60956] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
Message-ID: <003b01bf6432$7e736f60$b8cec28e@pavilion>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

This is great info. I've been a ham 22 years and asmit to never having been sure what the purpose of a ground rod at the base of my tower was. Here's my question: This Spring I'm having a 20 by 40 inground pool installed in my backyard. This will
mean I have to rip out a bunch of buried radials connected to a Cushcraft AP8A vertical stuck in the ground. Is there any
advantage if I somehow tie some wire into the support structure of the pool before its backfilled? Rick, VE9HF.

----- Original Message -----
From: Stuart Rohre <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2000 5:53 PM
Subject: To ground your antenna or not? (long)

> One of the recurring confusion factors in ham radio is what to do about
> station grounding. Recent discussions have shown once again how confusing
> this all can be to new hams (or old)!
>
> In general, grounding to earth is done to lessen danger of electrical
shock
> due to problems with AC powered equipment. It is to put the chassis of the
> radio equipment at the same zero potential as the earth pin of the AC
supply,
> subject to ohmic factors giving rise to a voltage gradient from the AC
mains
> earth to any separate radio earth point. (AND this can be the cause of
> serious problems if lightning hits.) Bonding of all earth rods or halo
wires,
> radials, etc. seeks to equalize lighting fault voltage potential
differences,
> although at the extreme voltages and currents of direct hits, most
materials
> used by hams at home are of doubtful suitability to dissipate a direct hit
> without subtantial collateral damage to both equipment, grounding means,
and
> possibly the structure. In any gathering of hams, there will be a couple
or
> more who have tales of damage, in spite of ground rods.
>
> In all cases of woe I have heard, there was knowlege of storms being
likely,
> and there were feedlines left connected to antennas, and into the shack,
and
> computers and radios were plugged into AC power, but often turned off. I
> unplug from antennas and AC at all times except when operating, and have
had
> close calls, but radios survived.
> Same for the club station I maintain at the local Red Cross Chapter,
> (everything unplugs after use.) And we try to keep AC connections away
from
> antenna cables, as after a lightning bolt has traveled 10 miles down
throught
> the air, is that one foot between your AC and coax going to look like high
> impedance? At Red Cross, we have a 60 foot grounded tower. Above the
triband
> beam, and stacked 2M Yagis, is a low band ground plane for the Red Cross
VHF
> frequency. It has been seen to act as a lightning rod in numerous storms,
and
> has finally shown problems, even though its tallest part is a grounded

folded
> unipole element. (One side grounded as are the radials). When it is
replaced,
> we plan to try a dissipating top hat on the new antenna.
>
> No one who has a grounded antenna feed entry panel, and who removes
equipment
> from connection to AC power seems to get hit. Their grounded tower
outside
> may, but if they have a mast or dissipation array atop the tower it may
> discharge a buildup safely without any other problems.
>
> Now if you live in a poor RF ground area, which also often means a poor AC
> ground area, you may get multiple hits or annual hits. (been there as
9M2SM in
> the tropics!)
>
> But, to confuse the issue, some antennas are incomplete radiators as
usually
> built, and in a rather few "good RF ground" areas of the earth, may work
> better when operated with a physical earth connection under them. The
quarter
> wave vertical element or mobile whip is the usual example of this.
>
> Areas where earth is not useful to lauching RF waves include desert soils,
> jungle soils in equatorial regions and rainforests, rocky outcrop regions
of
> non conductive material, and any areas of low ground conductivity.
Mountainous
> areas where you are up on the rocky outcrop suffer as well. Your good
> elevation may mask the problems in this case.
>
> Antennas to avoid in such areas are any of the unbalanced, non-dipole type
> antennas. These would include quarter wave verticals, so called "long
wires",
> short random wires, and in general any antenna that works best when adding
> radials, counterpoises, or a ground plane. If you can add an adequate
> reference plane for such antennas they can work well. But that takes extra
> work in RF poor ground areas, unless you live by a body of water. Quarter
wave
> Verticals over salt water edge have won DX contests in tropical areas. I
am
> not saying the unbalanced antenna will not work, it will just work so much
> better if an RF ground is provided effectively with them.
>
> Antennas that are earth independent are of course the balanced antennas
such
> as dipoles, Extended double Zepps, Yagi beams, and quads, loops, vertical

half
> wave vertical dipoles, half squares, rectangles, Hentennas, etc. Note
that I
> am saying balanced when looking at the antenna itself. You may be feeding
a
> balanced antenna with an unbalanced feedline, such as coax to a horizontal
> half wave dipole.
> Another way to think of "balanced" antennas is to consider that it is an
> antenna with two elements connected to the feed, and well independent of
> earth, or a full wave or less, element in a loop or closed geometric form.
> (includes loop like antennas) Note that Fractal antennas can be earth
> independent if made up of symmetrical parts, and symmetry is a feature of
> balanced antennas in this context.
>
> If you want mainly Near Vertical Incidence, in state coverage, you may
want to
> put a near ground element wire under a balanced half wave horizontal
dipole.
> Thus, extra RF grounds may be used with balanced antennas for specialized
> pattern control.
>
> For good DX, you may want to elevate a quarter wave vertical and provide
> elevated radials for it.
>
> Thus, grounding serves in the first case to alter a pattern for an already
> complete dipole antenna. In the second, the radials complete the "missing
> half" of the vertical, since its element was only a quarter wave. Neither
> case serves the lightning protection function.
>
> All cases considered here are dealing with near fields of the antennas,
and
> other effects of type of earth enter in further out from any antenna.
Thus,
> to "ground" or reference at your antenna or not should address two needs,
RF
> circuit completion and charge buildup dissipation that will assist with
> lightning concerns.
>
> Now a side point on safety grounds. In the local area, there is about
half of
> the utility's service area that is over shallow soil on rock, where
driving
> earthing rods vertically works only for 18 inches. Thus, they did some
> computer studies of great use to hams. An effective safety earth can be
> created with an alternate to ground rods. This would be 200 feet of at
least
> no. 10 wire or larger, buried as deep as practical around the structure to
be

> protected. The charge dissipation concept is to have a circle of this
wire
> for charges to enter earth over a distributed area. The 25 ohm substation
> ground standard can be met in the worst areas for conductivity, and of
course
> use of more conductors can bring earth resistance down to a more desirable
5
> to 10 ohm value. The measurement is done by the three prong 'fall of
> potential' method recently discussed. Incidentally, for those asking how
this
> is done, it was covered in the last few years of the ARRL Handbook or
Antenna
> book, another good reason to renew your technical library with updated
> Handbooks! You can build your own fall of potential measuring rods, and
use a
> lamp bulb to limit the 60 Hz current used for injection in the soil to be
> measured. An AC voltmeter/ Ammeter and Ohm's Law completes your tools.
>
> Hope this clarifies the various purposes grounding may play with various
> antennas and their location.
>
> 72,
> Stuart Rohre
> K5KVH, Austin TX

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 08:10:54 -0500
From: "Don Wilhelm" <w3fpr@arrl.net>
To: <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-
l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60957] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
Message-ID: <006601bf6411$82db6060$73b17ed8@dbw-11-main>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Folks,
Although I have not digested it carefully, it seems to me that Stuart has
pretty well covered the station grounding stuff.
I could only add one emphasis - that grounding of AC mains (shock safety),
grounding for lightning, and grounding for RF are 3 separate considerations.
Interconnecting them is not always the best thing to do unless it is done by
use of a single point grounding window for ALL wiring into the operating
position.

The situation is complicated because the power company wants only one ground point for the AC mains, lightning protection wants its own short high current path to ground, and we want an effective RF ground for the sake of our antennas. Interconnecting separate grounds can occasionally cause problems with circulating AC currents on the ground loops. I don't have any universal answer for the conditions I am pointing out, but knowing that such a possibility exists can often help debug a problem situation, I do not claim to be an expert on this subject, but I do try to keep up with the news - my safety may depend on it.

73,
Don Wilhelm -Chapel Hill, NC
 W3FPR   QRP-L # 485   K2 SN 0020

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 08:34:24 -0500
From: "K3GM" <k3gm@home.com>
To: <tscott@eni.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60958] Re: AD8361 - followup, no-see-um parts!
Message-ID: <03df01bf6414$3bd1ec40$246e0c18@adubn1.nj.home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Mornin' group,

I'm sitting home for a couple of days following hernia surgery yesterday...Ouch!! Hey, I work all day on a $60 thousand Zuken-Redac Visula CAD workstation and would be more that happy to layout the the entire board for a List project. Problem is my firm does not actually make the blank printed circuit boards so we would need someone from the list to fabricate the blanks for us. Does anyone do this, or know anybody that would do us a favor? I can ftp or e-mail them Gerber 274X files of each layer. I could make it as simple, or as complex as desired, ie. 2 layer or multilayer with VCC and GND planes, plated through holes, etc. Anybody interested in picking up this end of it?

BTW, the above applies to ANY projects the list would be interested in doing.

7 3,

Tom K3GM

> Re: "I designed a little adapter PCB for the similar small package AD9850
> DDS
> chip, that bought the pins out to staggered 0.5" spacing pads."
>
> I've been thinking that a pretty cool project would be for someone to get
> Far Circuits to make up a large PCB with a whole slew of these "smaller
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> degrees selectively watching under a magnifier to see the solder paste
flow.
>
> I haven't tried it, but it sounds like it just might work.
>
> - Tom
> _/
>   ?Tom Scott   -   Wyle Electronics   -   KD7DMH
>   10300 SW Nimbus Ave #PB, Portland, OR 97223
>   503-603-1931 - Tel   503-684-6620 - Fax

> 503-703-2032 - Cell

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 08:50:17 -0500 (EST)
From: Bob Patten <n4bp@bc.seflin.org>
To: QRP-L Reflector <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [60959] Re: Poqet PQ0181
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.10001210827.A7067-0100000@bc.seflin.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Has anyone bought one of these and found that it didn't meet their
needs? I'm looking for one for low budget DXpeditioning and missed the
original buy (they're sold out).

73,

,'' '',
Bob Patten, N4BP (0 0) Plantation, FL
_____oOOo-(_)-oOO_____

E-Mail: n4bp@bc.seflin.org
Web Page: http://www.qsl.net/n4bp
Brass Pounder BBS: (954) 472-7715

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 08:43:29 -0500
From: "K3GM" <k3gm@home.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60960] Re: AD8361 - followup, no-see-um parts!
Message-ID: <041001bf6415$809e1dc0$246e0c18@adubn1.nj.home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Mornin' group,

I'm sitting home for a couple of days following hernia surgery
yesterday...Ouch!! Hey, I work all day on a $60 thousand Zuken-Redac Visula
CAD workstation and would be more than happy to layout the the entire board
for a List project. Problem is my firm does not actually make the blank
printed circuit boards so we would need someone from the list to fabricate
the blanks for us. Does anyone do this, or know anybody that would do us a

favor? I can ftp or e-mail them Gerber 274X files of each layer. I could make it as simple, or as complex as desired, ie. 2 layer or multilayer with VCC and GND planes, plated through holes, etc. Anybody interested in picking up this end of it?

BTW, the above applies to ANY projects the List would be interested in doing.

7 3,

Tom K3GM

> Re: "I designed a little adapter PCB for the similar small package AD9850
> DDS
> chip, that bought the pins out to staggered 0.5" spacing pads."
>
> I've been thinking that a pretty cool project would be for someone to get
> Far Circuits to make up a large PCB with a whole slew of these "smaller
than
> rice" footprints, bringing them out to something hand-solderable. The idea
> would be that the the individual footprints could be cut out of the sheet
as
> needed and glued down to copper-clad for "ugly style" construction
projects.
> The point being that if you do a whole sheet on one board, they get pretty
> cheap. There is a company that sells these in a few varieties in little
> plastic bags of onesy twosy quantities for prices that would suggest
they're
> made of diamonds and gold! Anybody with a PCB design software package
> interested in taking this up?
>
> If Far Circuits made such a thing, I'd buy one just to have it around for
> when I needed it. No holes needed, single sided, keeps the costs down. But
> it does need to be high resolution etching, don't know if Far is up to
that
> or not.
>
> Oh, and as far as soldering the little no-see-ums down to that carrier, HP
> has a pretty interesting app-note on their web site for soldering surface
> mount parts like this.
>
> In a nut-shell, they suggest that you rig a hot plate with a heat spreader
> plate at a temperature just a few degrees shy of solder melting point,
then
> you spread solder paste onto the board, stick the part onto the paste. You
> place that on the hot plate for a few minutes, and once the whole board is

> pre-heated, you use a heat gun blower to raise the temperature the last
few
> degrees selectively watching under a magnifier to see the solder paste
flow.
>
> I haven't tried it, but it sounds like it just might work.
>
> - Tom
> _/
>   ?Tom Scott   -   Wyle Electronics   -   KD7DMH
>   10300 SW Nimbus Ave #PB, Portland, OR 97223
>   503-603-1931 - Tel   503-684-6620 - Fax
>   503-703-2032 - Cell

----- Original Message -----
From: "Tom Scott" <tscott@eni.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2000 3:54 AM
Subject: RE: AD8361 - followup, no-see-um parts!

> Re: "I designed a little adapter PCB for the similar small package AD9850
> DDS
> chip, that bought the pins out to staggered 0.5" spacing pads."
>
> I've been thinking that a pretty cool project would be for someone to get
> Far Circuits to make up a large PCB with a whole slew of these "smaller
than
> rice" footprints, bringing them out to something hand-solderable. The idea
> would be that the the individual footprints could be cut out of the sheet
as
> needed and glued down to copper-clad for "ugly style" construction
projects.
> The point being that if you do a whole sheet on one board, they get pretty
> cheap. There is a company that sells these in a few varieties in little
> plastic bags of onesy twosy quantities for prices that would suggest
they're
> made of diamonds and gold! Anybody with a PCB design software package
> interested in taking this up?
>
> If Far Circuits made such a thing, I'd buy one just to have it around for
> when I needed it. No holes needed, single sided, keeps the costs down. But
> it does need to be high resolution etching, don't know if Far is up to
that
> or not.
>
> Oh, and as far as soldering the little no-see-ums down to that carrier, HP

> has a pretty interesting app-note on their web site for soldering surface
> mount parts like this.
>
> In a nut-shell, they suggest that you rig a hot plate with a heat spreader
> plate at a temperature just a few degrees shy of solder melting point,
then
> you spread solder paste onto the board, stick the part onto the paste. You
> place that on the hot plate for a few minutes, and once the whole board is
> pre-heated, you use a heat gun blower to raise the temperature the last
few
> degrees selectively watching under a magnifier to see the solder paste
flow.
>
> I haven't tried it, but it sounds like it just might work.
>
> - Tom
> _/
>   ?Tom Scott   -   Wyle Electronics   -   KD7DMH
>   10300 SW Nimbus Ave #PB, Portland, OR 97223
>   503-603-1931 - Tel   503-684-6620 - Fax
>   503-703-2032 - Cell

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 09:03:32 -0500
From: Russ Hines <radioruss@fuse.net>
To: w3fpr@arrl.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60961] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
Message-ID: <38886734.BA8E2439@fuse.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

That's a very good point, Don. A single point ground system works quite
well, providing you maintain individual ground runs to the single
point. Just grabbing a convenient spot on a nearby ground cable defeats
the purpose of it.

Something to consider when putting your ground system together: a good
electrical ground is usually not a very good RF ground and offers little
lightning protection... but a good RF ground system is almost always a
great electrical ground and offers very good lightning protection. And
"good RF ground" is NOT some quarter-wave counterpoise tossed on the
floor. ;-)

73,
Russ
WB8ZCC

Don Wilhelm wrote:
>
> Folks,
> Although I have not digested it carefully, it seems to me that Stuart has
> pretty well covered the station grounding stuff.
> I could only add one emphasis - that grounding of AC mains (shock safety),
> grounding for lightning, and grounding for RF are 3 separate considerations.
> Interconnecting them is not always the best thing to do unless it is done by
> use of a single point grounding window for ALL wiring into the operating
> position.
>

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 08:09:50 -0600 (CST)
From: Joe Smith <joey@joesmith.net>
To: talljazz@teleport.com
Cc: qrp-l@LeHigh.edu
Subject: [60962] N7CQR Fox Hunt
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.10.10001210756050.8439-100000@buster.hworx.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Thanks for the hunt! It was a bit of a cluster in there, everyone calling right on your frequency, but if every fox hunt were the same, it would get boring FAST! Also I am glad you were on the nice antennas, I'm sure your signal would have been much harder to dig out in Missouri had you not had that advantage! From my QTH I have missed BOTH WA foxes as the propogation has not been there for that distance. (at least on my limited station)

I guess the hardest part was knowing for sure who you were calling when you didn't put the hounds call on the tail of your exchange. Lots of "persistant" hounds in there!

One thing I did LIKE, was when you moved TX frequency! It's fun to think you are on the foxes trail, then suddenly, gone! Now that is a fox hunt!

Rig here was Icom 706MKII at 4 watts, 80 meter windom at 40 feet tuned via MFJ-941B and custom paddles.

72, W0JOE

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 08:18:30 -0700
From: Bruce Grubbs N7CEE <n7cee@arrl.net>
To: Jim.Golden@hmsc.orst.edu, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60963] Re: Sierra and PSK31
Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.20000121081830.009f8c70@earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 10:09 1/20/2000 -0800, Jim Golden wrote:
>To the group:
>
>I also use a Sierra cw transciever and have successfully listened to PSK31
>QSO's. My question is, has anyone managed to modify the Sierra to send
>PSK31? I would assume you would have to have SSB. The easy fix would
>probably be to trade up to a K2!
>
>Jim KK7EM
>
Good plan, Jim. I have a Sierra and a K2- the Sierra reserved for backpacking, and the K2 for the main station and contest rig. The K2 works VERY well on PSK31.

72

Bruce N7CEE
n7cee@arrl.net

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 09:28:09 -0600
From: "Jerry Bartachek" <Jerry.Bartachek@dnr.state.ia.us>
To: <howardw7ilw@cableone.net>, <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60964] RE: BCK & other FAA Beacons
Message-ID: <s88826b5.099@idnr4.dnr.state.ia.us>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Disposition: inline

Very interesting about the "BCK" beacon. here all this time I thought it =
was actually on 1812 KHZ and not a harmonic. Also has anyone noted that =
it SIMULTANEOUSLY can be heard on 1812 and 1813?

Now i'd like to graciously ask Howard to look up the beacon "VIA" in his =
beacon guide and tell us its fundamental freq and location. This one can =
be heard on 1810 or close to it. Seems these beacons were much louder =
last winter and heard more often than this year.

Jerry L. Bartachek KD0CA <><
Washington, IA
IA QRP #10
QRP-L #544
QRP ARCI #5166

Date: 21 Jan 2000 10:29:39 -0500
From: Glen Leinweber <leinwebe@mcmail.cis.McMaster.CA>
To: qrp-l:;
Subject: [60965] HB: humor for homebrewers
Message-ID: <2000Jan21.102939-0500@[130.113.234.7]>

TGIF gang,
     Canada-wide broadcast radio (CBC Canada) puts out a request
for "wanted words" to describe a given situation. Last week it was
a situation all us homebrewing hams have encountered, sometimes
on the victim side, sometimes on the expert side:
"...the familiar situation where something broken fixes itself
spontaneously just when an expert arrives to fix it."
     Actually, there is a (close) word for this:
quantum-bogodynamics
I think the winner was "immaculate correction" (although that's
TWO words). The other entries are a riot too:
http://www.radio.cbc.ca/programs/thismorning/pastwords.html
look for challenge #12.
-Glen VE3DNL leinwebe@mcmaster.ca

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 10:40:47 -0500
From: "Dieter Gentzow - WB8QYY" <wb8qyy@one.net>
To: <Jerry.Bartachek@dnr.state.ia.us>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-
l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60966] Re: BCK & other FAA Beacons
Message-ID: <001201bf6426$9dcb3b60$0102030a@amd300>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I wish I had an address for the BCN beacon.
I'd like to send them a QSL card :)

73 - Dieter (DIZ) Gentzow - WB8QYY "oo's"
Loveland, Ohio - NE suburb of Cincinnati
FPqrp#-1 DL-QRP-AG#1454 QRP-L#1998 10-X#9389 CATT#26 K2#493
http://w3.one.net/~gentzow/wb8qyy.htm

----- Original Message -----
From: "Jerry Bartachek" <Jerry.Bartachek@dnr.state.ia.us>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2000 10:24 AM
Subject: RE: BCK & other FAA Beacons

> Very interesting about the "BCK" beacon. here all this time I thought it
was actually on 1812 KHZ and not a harmonic. Also has anyone noted that it
SIMULTANEOUSLY can be heard on 1812 and 1813?
>
> Now i'd like to graciously ask Howard to look up the beacon "VIA" in his
beacon guide and tell us its fundamental freq and location. This one can be
heard on 1810 or close to it. Seems these beacons were much louder last
winter and heard more often than this year.
>
> Jerry L. Bartachek KD0CA <><
> Washington, IA
> IA QRP #10
> QRP-L #544
> QRP ARCI #5166
>

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 8:05:14 PST
From: Roger Traylor <traylor@ECE.ORST.EDU>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [60967] Re: Very High Speed Op-Amps
Message-ID: <200001211605.IAA27240@tongu.ECE.ORST.EDU>

Guys,
  A high speed amp of interest to me is the Maxim MAX4223-4228
  series. 1GHz current feedback amp. Available in 6 pin
  SOT23 package, or SO8. Bring on the magnifying glasses.

Roger Traylor
WB4PTW

> "Paul Harden, NA5N" wrote:
>
> > There are several high bandwidth op amps on the street and fairly easy
> > to get from the hobby vendors. You would want a bandwidth of at least
> > 100MHz if using with an IF frequency we normall use on HF (<10-12MHz).
> > The "OP" series of opamps are in this range.
>

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 08:37:30 -0800
From: Allan G Taylor <agtaylor@llnl.gov>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [60968] Re: XCVR: toroid winding help needed for RHR40/NC20.
Message-ID: <38888B4A.40B5@llnl.gov>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Two NC20 builders have come to my rescue (plus much study of the
NC20 on line manual from RHR). K5KW got to the key issues: The
primary and secondary windings are OUT OF PHASE and the link in both
instances is wound in the apparent blank spot on the core between the
two leads to the main winding. Thanks 'KW!! T1 is now wound and
installed in the rig (RedHot 40).

Tnx also to N0RC for his offer.

With any luck, the rx stage should be working on the rig by next
Friday. I am tantalizingly close to the end.

73 all K7GT

--
Allan Taylor   agtaylor@llnl.gov

DXCC2000 progress: 40 countries worked so far, 20 days. (no, not QRP)

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 10:49:47 -0500
From: Stuart Rohre <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>

To: Don Wilhelm <w3fpr@arrl.net>, *qrp-l <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [60969] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
Message-ID: <38888022.FFEB2522@arlut.utexas.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Don adds good emphasis,

I alluded to the problem of a difference of voltage, (potential) even if the safety ground is bonded to the antenna enterance ground, and there is too SMALL a conductor between them, causing enough resistance, (impedance) to develop large voltages. Easy to do when dealing in fast rise times of lightning discharge, and heavy current.

Another point worth making is that if you are going to the field, and operating a dipole, and using a QRP rig from a battery, there is no need to put down an 8 foot ground rod to bond to the rig! Now, if a storm comes along, I would hope you would disconnect the feed line from the rig, place the end of it in a plastic sandwich bag or something to protect it from the rain water, and throw the feeder as far away from your tent as possible.

I actually saw a ham operate battery QRP at Field Day and put down the traditional ground rod. Of course, like most field days, he could only put it down about 2 feet and left the rest out of ground to run into in the dark---not much of a safety ground, and since RF only penetrates a few inches at most of the top soil, he was not doing anything for the RF, since he already had the "complete" antenna, a dipole.

Now operation of AC generator supplied Field Days is a regular AC safety ground situation, and you do bring a ground rod for those. This is one of the situations where excavating for a horizontal rod burial is the best you can do for the temporary AC safety ground. (Given the rocky sites most field day locations seem to be!)

Thanks Don,
Stuart K5KVH

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 11:57:15 EST
From: Dean W Manley <kh6b@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: kh6b@juno.com
Subject: [60970] Re: BCK and NDB info
Message-ID: <20000121.065650.5391.0.kh6b@juno.com>

A warm hello from Hilo, Hawaii.

Those wishing more info on BCK and other NDB
facilities, may get it at this web site.

http://www.lwca.org

Click on "Utility Stations", then select
Non-Directional Beacons.

A fun place to visit. Get info, such as the landing
fee of just $2 at the Thief River Falls airport.

Hope this info helps.

Aloha,

Dean KH6B
Hilo Hawaii

Dean KH6B Hilo HI BK29KP
ARRL Life, HI Chap. 194 QCWA
HI QRP 001

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 11:06:59 -0600
From: Richard Matthews <prm@hiwaay.net>
To: rohre@arlut.utexas.edu, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [60971] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
Message-ID: <3.0.1.32.20000121110659.00ba1890@hiwaay.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Sounds like now is a good time to ask grounding questions, so here is mine.

I operate 30 meters from my houseboat, mostly at the dock using the boat batteries as power for my QRP rig. Should I just use the boat frame as ground or will I be better off (antenna wise) to drop a separate ground rod off into the water (fresh water, not salt). I use an inverted vee strung above the boat cabin. Right now my ground is the boat frame ground which has bare metal in contact with the water and I have no problems that I am aware of. I have 120VAC shore power but only use it for appliances and lighting on board that need AC. It's ground is through the internal ground wire.

Richard, WA4NWW

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 12:23:38 -0500
From: "Ken Hanks" <captnfd@yahoo.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, <prm@hiwaay.net>
Subject: [60972] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
Message-ID: <010a01bf6434$4643f900$db118ad1@acer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Rich:

You really do not need a ground. The antenna is balanced and there is no AC power to your rig. You setup is pretty much self contained.

73,

Ken Hanks K1XS
Naugatuck, CT
CaptNFD@yahoo.com
http://www.qsl.net/k1xs

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 12:32:41 -0500
From: Charles Greene <cgreene@loa.com>
To: n7cee@arrl.net, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60973] Re: Sierra and PSK31
Message-ID: <4.2.2.20000121122823.00a68940@mail.loa.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 08:18 AM 1/21/00 -0700, Bruce Grubbs N7CEE wrote:
>At 10:09 1/20/2000 -0800, Jim Golden wrote:
> >To the group:
> >
> >I also use a Sierra cw transciever and have successfully listened to PSK31
> >QSO's. My question is, has anyone managed to modify the Sierra to send
> >PSK31? I would assume you would have to have SSB. The easy fix would
> >probably be to trade up to a K2!
> >
> >Jim KK7EM
> >

>Good plan, Jim. I have a Sierra and a K2- the Sierra reserved for
>backpacking, and the K2 for the main station and contest rig. The K2 works
>VERY well on PSK31.

Jim,

If you can wait awhile, Small Wonder has a 20 meter SSB transceiver
in the design phase that works with DigiPan software to do PSK31.
I don't know the details on the design, but it's bound to be cheaper
than a K2. The K2 is a great rig, but if all you want is QRP PSK31
the Small Wonder will fill the bill.

Try PSK31. Check: http://aintel.bi.ehu.es/psk31.html
  and May 99 QST. K2 S/N 462.

Chas, W1CG

Rhode Island TCPIP Address Coordinator
w1cg@arrl.net

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 09:53:55 -0800
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60974] Re: Line Loss Measurements.
Message-ID: <38889D33.8FDA5F37@qsl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi feedline fanatics.

I'd like to encourage others to check results
of different feedlines as I did.

I was asked by a few as to if I'd do some

Surge impedance measurements as well. I started
to last night coincident with the loss measurements
but all my 9 Volt batteries were dead so the RF-1
wouldn't stay on at 30 MHz. I was going to compute
Zo from the L/C values.

If you do wish to perform comparative testing, here's
a few things I was careful with:

  I used a calibrated scope with one probe longer than
the other. Both were compensated for squarewave response
and one probe set to track the trace of the other. After
each measurement, I swapped the probes to verify the values.

Both load resistors were measured to within a few ohms of
eachother.

IMPERATIVE: Ensure the probe common clips are connected
to the same feedline wire on there respecte ends. Connecting
a probe common to the other wire does in fact lower the
measure output signal. To be certain on my measurements
I reversed to probe connection each time and also measured
continuity of the feedline with one end terminated in 270
ohms. (Measure ohmic value from the far end.)

I wanted to do a section of 450 Ohm window line but the
local store (HSC Electronics) doesn't always have a
ample supply. I'd like to also homebrew some openline and
check that out.

more to do.. 72/Ed we6w
--
-72/Ed WE6W; AR Millennium Q's=> 2479/2000 A-1 OP
 http://www.qsl.net/we6w Santa Rosa, CA
QRP-Z#106 AR#112 HI-QRP#64 ARCI#9397 ARS#275 QRP-L#1068 Old NC#2227

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 13:05:10 -0500
From: "Buck, Preston D" <BuckPD@corning.com>
To: n2apb@erols.com, qrp-l <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60975] re: Great meeting with KI6DS and AD6A
Message-ID: <9C472CF03C5ED111BBF20000F84A17010209A970@EAGLE.CORNING.COM>
Content-return: allowed
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain

Hi George,

How about naming some names.

I have a trip to San Jose scheduled for next month for the Gigabit Ethernet Conference. I typically hit Frye's Electronics. Last time I saw HB Electronics on the way to the airport but didn't have time to stop.

But having a couple of surplus place would be good.

73, Preston, n0glm, Southern NY State

My words, not my employer's

<snip>

And the "coup de grace" of my trip was Doug showing me three separate surplus electronic parts havens in the San Jose area. I visited them the next day and I'm taking home some very valuable bootie for myself and for the NJQRP. Man, we sure don't have meccas like this back on the east coast!

<snip>

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 13:10:36 -0500
From: "Mike Pupeza" <mpupeza@softecsys.net>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60976] Re: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
Message-ID: <000f01bf643a$d1ee4f40$245665d1@palmnet.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have had very good success with 'plain old' WD-40! Better than some of the 'Specialty' cleaners. Perhaps because it leaves a residue on the pot, and contacts.

One thing that I have found, is to make sure there is no power or signal going through the pot, or switch. Give it a 'small' swoosh, then work it back and forth, wiping up any overspray.

While it has worked for me, please don't hold me liable for any damage caused! This is a 'suggestion' only - try it at your own risk!

WD-40 can be VERY flammable - I often spray it into the throat of carbeurators of small engines to get them to start. Works fine there too. In

fact, if it had an SPF rating, and some Insect Repellant in it, I would probably use it for 'everything'!

Good luck.

Mike Pupeza VE3EQP

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 13:24:07 -0500
From: "Ed Tanton" <n4xy@att.net>
To: <mpupeza@softecsys.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60977] RE: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
Message-ID: <NBBBJDEEIFDDANGEGHLBMEDIIIAA.n4xy@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

WD-40 leaves a residue that I wouldn't want on a switch or in a pot.

Ed Tanton N4XY <n4xy@arrl.net>

Website: www.qsl.net/n4xy

"Do what's right. You'll please some people, and amaze everyone else."

Mark Twain

Date: Sat, 22 Jan 2000 12:29:17 -0600
From: "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
To: <cgreene@loa.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60978] Re: Sierra and PSK31
Message-ID: <008a01bf6506$98618400$04987b7b@dooleydw>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Now THIS excites me! I already have the DSW-40. A great little rig!

I've done a lot of PSK31 with my Icom 706. I use the lowest power position which yields about 3/4 watt output on this mode. I've made some fun contacts with that.

A small 20 SSB meter rig, especially if it compares favorably in size to the DSW series and if it also will work well on CW will be just what I'll be looking for. Then I can look forward to some fun PSK31 with my ThinkPad from hotel rooms. Oh for joy! Nah, I don't need the microphone....

Dan W. Dooley WB5TKA
   e-mail to: dandooley@pipeline.com
May Goddes love blest ye alle

> If you can wait awhile, Small Wonder has a 20 meter SSB transceiver
> in the design phase that works with DigiPan software to do PSK31.
> I don't know the details on the design, but it's bound to be cheaper
> than a K2. The K2 is a great rig, but if all you want is QRP PSK31
> the Small Wonder will fill the bill.

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 10:48:48 -0800
From: Dave Barrett <DBarrett@creo.com>
To: "'mpupeza@softecsys.net'" <mpupeza@softecsys.net>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60979] RE: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
Message-ID: <BFEFC3386986D2119C0800A0C99B5DE60118713C@msgcreo3.creo.bc.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"

No WD40 PLEASE.....customer usage of this stuff is like the plague to the service industry.

PLEASE don't use it.   The stuff leaves a terrible mess everywhere it contacts and does little to clean a pot, it merely "wets" the track, doesn't lubricate either.....
If you want your pot cleaned at a reasonable price get a good quality silicon TV tuner lube.

f you want to spend a lot on an expensive repair further down the road go ahead and squirt WD40 in your equipment....
            Dave VA7DB (Service industry 38 years)

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Pupeza [mailto:mpupeza@softecsys.net]
Sent: Friday, 21 January, 2000 10:11 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries

I have had very good success with 'plain old' WD-40! Better than some of the 'Specialty' cleaners. Perhaps because it leaves a residue on the pot, and contacts.

One thing that I have found, is to make sure there is no power or signal going through the pot, or switch. Give it a 'small' swoosh, then work it back and forth, wiping up any overspray.

While it has worked for me, please don't hold me liable for any damage caused! This is a 'suggestion' only - try it at your own risk!

WD-40 can be VERY flammable - I often spray it into the throat of carbeurators of small engines to get them to start. Works fine there too. In fact, if it had an SPF rating, and some Insect Repellant in it, I would probably use it for 'everything'!

Good luck.

Mike Pupeza VE3EQP

Date: Sat, 22 Jan 2000 12:44:05 -0600
From: "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
To: "QRP List" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60980] Antenna Height Restrictions
Message-ID: <009001bf6508$a9b023e0$04987b7b@dooleydw>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Friends, I hope that this is not considered too far Off Topic. I think that it deals very closely with our ability to fully enjoy our hobby but I do most sincerely apologize to any who might consider it inappropriate for this list.

With reading so much of PRB-1 and the statement "reasonable accommodation", I'm wondering how this can be translated into real world applications and not be simply legal "statements" which are theoretically neat, but mean little otherwise.

I live in Bedford, Texas. A suburb located between Dallas and Ft. Worth.
Bedford has a stated height limitation of 35 feet total. As for as I know,
non of the other towns around here have that limitation.

Along comes PRB-1, stating that towns must make "reasonable accommodation"
and that the federal government "preempts" their local ordinances
(supposedly) in such matters. Last year, Texas passed HB 1345 which makes
PRB-1 a part of state law.

Well? How does that help me? How do I go to the powers that be in Bedford
and say: "Ya gotta let me put my tower up higher. This law says so." How
do we individuals use such laws in our favor.

Does anyone have any experience with this? What does "reasonable
accommodation" really mean? I'm not asking for the moon. I'd be happy with
45 to 50 feet.

BTW, I'm not subject to any neighborhood deed restrictions, covenants, etc.
Just the city's limitations.

Dan W. Dooley WB5TKA
   e-mail to: dandooley@pipeline.com
May Goddes love blest ye alle

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 14:00:22 -0500
From: "C. Lamar Derk" <n3at@noln.com>
To: n4bp@bc.seflin.org
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60981] Re: Poqet PQ0181
Message-ID: <3888ACC6.EDA1AD5B@noln.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hang in there, Bob - I think my Poget will be for sale soon. I am upgrading to the
Poqet plus, and if that works out, my Poqet 0181 will be available. The Poqet plus
should be here sometime next week, if not before.

72 de Lamar, N3AT

Bob Patten wrote:

> Has anyone bought one of these and found that it didn't meet their
> needs? I'm looking for one for low budget DXpeditioning and missed the
> original buy (they're sold out).

>
>   73,
>   ,'' '',
>   Bob Patten, N4BP   (0 0)   Plantation, FL
> _____________________________oOOo-(_)-oOO_____________________________
>
>   E-Mail: n4bp@bc.seflin.org
>   Web Page: http://www.qsl.net/n4bp
>   Brass Pounder BBS: (954) 472-7715

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 19:16:09 +0000
From: wb2vuo@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [60982] Re: Wilderness KC-2 and "Big Rigs"
Message-ID: <20000121.191610.-140909.0.wb2vuo@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks to all. I will talk it over with Dave (KB2VVD) and see how he
wants to go about this.

The OHR DD-1 may be the answer. Buying a "parts" radio is fine, but the
whole reason of not getting another rig is limited income on Dave's part
(Been there, done that, couldn't afford the T-shirt!)

I am pushing for the SWL "Frequency Mite" myself, but ulltimately it's
not my call.

Thanks again. The List has come thru!

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, 100% QRP from the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp
VP & FD'00 Chairman, Brockport Amateur Radio Klub
My night light runs more power than my Rig!!!
Replies off-list to: wb2vuo@arrl.net

____
YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!
Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj.

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 19:33:26 GMT
From: k1vp@lawson-philpot.com
To: cgreene@loa.com
Cc: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60983] Re: Sierra and PSK31
Message-ID: <20000121.19332611@office4.office.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> Original Message <<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<

On 1/21/00, 12:32:41 PM, Charles Greene <cgreene@loa.com> wrote=20
regarding Re: Sierra and PSK31:

> If you can wait awhile, Small Wonder has a 20 meter SSB transceiver
> in the design phase=20

Any info on this? Sounds very intersting. Companion to the DSW with=20=

common circuit elements?

Ed Lawson
K1VP

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 13:00:24 -0600
From: Ray Colbert <af852@rgfn.epcc.edu>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [60984] RE: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
Message-ID: <3888ACC8.575DA67D@rgfn.epcc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The one I used with good success when I used to be in
the business of repairing hf, mobile vhf/ufh, and
repeater systems was a product called Wish, with silicone
made by Workman Electronics products, and Blue Shower - which

a friend in the TV repair business recommended. Still use
them on the ham gear, too.
--
"The more I see of the representatives of the people,
the more I admire my dogs."
letter from Count d'Orsay to John Foster 1850

Ray Colbert, W5XE, OOTC 3618, SOWP 1064M NARTE-NCT2
(also w5xe@juno.com   El Paso,(FAR WEST) TEXAS

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 15:08:33 -0500
From: "Mike Pupeza" <mpupeza@softecsys.net>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60985] RE: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
Message-ID: <002001bf644b$4c2cea40$1e5665d1@palmnet.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

After my post, I received several comments, in which I discovered that my
experience, over many years, doesn't agree with some others!

I had found that more problems than I can count were caused by overspray of
silicon compounds, which are almost impossible to clean off drive belts,
capstans, heads, pulleys, and any friction requiring components.

I've ALWAYS been able to clean off excess WD-40 with Isopropyl Alcohol
(90%+) and
Q-tips, when, and where needed.

Now, I don't advocate that you lift the lid and start spraying! Many times a
drop from the tip of a pin, or toothpick is all that is needed.

Maybe technique is more important than the actual product?

Again, maybe personal experience, and preference?

72, 73

Mike Pupeza VE3EQP

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 15:39:42 +0000

From: "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [60986] Re: Sierra and PSK31
Message-ID: <200001212019.PAA29479@wolf.ncia.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

> If you can wait awhile, Small Wonder has a 20 meter SSB transceiver
> in the design phase that works with DigiPan software to do PSK31.

Oh boy, I bet Dave will be *real* happy that bit of info leaked
out...

72,
Steve, KD1JV in the white Mountains of New Hampshire
"melt solder"

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 14:38:48 -0600
From: "George T. Baker" <w5yr@worldnet.att.net>
To: kd1jv@moose.ncia.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60987] Re: Sierra and PSK31
Message-ID: <3888C3D8.E5AB782E@worldnet.att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Further leakage: the receiver has a bandwidth of a few KHz, relying upon
the DSP filtering in the DigiPan program to separate the PSK31 stations.
Also, since the DigiPan program provides a calibrated panoramic computer
display of the entire passband of the receiver, up to about 3.5 KHz,
there is no great need for a fancy dial.

Don't know where I saw this, but think it was on the PSK31 reflector. If
so, one might want to think about add-on filtering for CW use.

Sounds like a very clever adaptation to take best advantage of the mode
and the DigiPan program. I use the DigiPan display at all times,
especially for CW contacts since it gives such a great view of the band
in the vicinity of your dial frequency.

72/73, George
Fairview, TX   30 mi NE Dallas in Collin county
Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 54th year and it just keeps getting better!
R/C since 1964 - AMA 98452   RVing since 1972

Steven Weber wrote:
>
> > If you can wait awhile, Small Wonder has a 20 meter SSB transceiver
> > in the design phase that works with DigiPan software to do PSK31.
>
> Oh boy, I bet Dave will be *real* happy that bit of info leaked
> out...
>
> 72,
> Steve, KD1JV in the white Mountains of New Hampshire
> "melt solder"

--

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 16:02:39 -0500
From: Charles Greene <cgreene@loa.com>
To: kd1jv@moose.ncia.net, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60988] Re: Sierra and PSK31
Message-ID: <4.2.2.20000121154356.00a75b30@mail.loa.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 03:39 PM 1/21/00 +0000, Steven Weber wrote:
> > If you can wait awhile, Small Wonder has a 20 meter SSB transceiver
> > in the design phase that works with DigiPan software to do PSK31.
>
>Oh boy, I bet Dave will be *real* happy that bit of info leaked
>out...
>
>72,
>Steve, KD1JV in the white Mountains of New Hampshire
>"melt solder"

Steve and All,

Actually, Howard, KH6TY, posted the information that I
repeated, on the PSK31 reflector. I don't know the details
of the hardware, so I can't comment more. For information,
Howard has been spearheading this project since the Spring,
and he and Nick Fedoseev (the author of MixW32, a PSK31
program) wrote a new program for PSK31, DigiPan, which
receives audio from about 300 to 4K Hz and enables you to
tune in any PSK31 signal in that bandpass by clicking on
the signal on its panoramic display. You can see that the

Small Wonder machine and DigiPan can cover the 14070
to 14072 sub band without transceiver tuning. Nice concept.

Try PSK31. Check: http://aintel.bi.ehu.es/psk31.html
  and May 99 QST. K2 S/N 462.

Chas, W1CG

Rhode Island TCPIP Address Coordinator
w1cg@arrl.net

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 02:05:33 -0700
From: Roy <marion@montana.com>
To: mpupeza@softecsys.net, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60989] RE: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
Message-ID: <200001212105.OAA18065@mail.montana.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 03:08 PM 1/21/00 -0500, Mike Pupeza wrote:

>I've ALWAYS been able to clean off excess WD-40 with Isopropyl Alcohol
>(90%+) and
>Q-tips, when, and where needed.

>Again, maybe personal experience, and preference?

>Mike Pupeza VE3EQP
Well frankly I was supervised at the reaction you got. I am a 25 year
service tech, and the only thing I have ever used that works is WD-40. And
all services techs I have ever known swear by the stuff. I have tried it
all and have found nothing better. But I just make a living at it, so my
opinion probably won't hold up to the quasi-experts. 73 roy AB7CE

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 14:13:35 -0700
From: "Steve/n0tu" <n0tu@webaccess.net>
To: "QRP-L" <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [60990] TenTec PTO kit, Hustler RM40?
Message-ID: <006f01bf6454$61da7340$5448460f@snp.webaccess.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Finally after digging through some old files from when we lived in the barn. I found my missing TenTec PTO rebuilding kit but now own no TenTecs! ... anyone need one - $10
Also found my Johnson 250w matchbox instructions. (Anyone need a copy send me an SASE.)
Anyone know how to make it cover 160m? But no sign of Harvey -Wells tuner manual - nutz!

Help Query - I'm using a hustler RM40 resonator (w/folding mast) on top of the car via a mag mount in center of the car roof - temporally while I repair my HB bugcatcher. Works great when it's not being intermittent! The little whip on top of the resonator has lost it's keeper (the little piece of steel that clamps/wraps around the whip and wedges against the coil assembly tubing when you tighten down the keeper nut to hold it from sliding out of resonance. I've tried several solutions - wrapped 2-3 turns of soft copper wire around the whip and squashed it down with keeper nut. But after a few trips up my jeep trail driveway it's loose again. I'm also suspect of the folding mast joint as being a source of the intermittent problem. This has caused me to miss a couple of Foxes!! Any thoughts or suggestions how to rid myself of the intermittents??

Steve/n0tu "ready for FYBO'00? ...but where's winter?"

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 16:18:26 EST
From: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [60991] Telescoping fiberglass masts
Message-ID: <61.f7fc42.25ba2722@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

For those portable ops and rotatable dipoles these telescoping quad spreader=
s=20
may be something you are looking for:

Click Here: <A HREF=3D"http://www.mgs4u.com/quadsp.htm">MAX-GAIN SYSTEMS, IN=
C.=20
-- FIBERGLASS QUAD SPREA=85</A>

http://www.mgs4u.com/quadsp.htm

ALAN KB7MBI

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 15:27:24 -0600
From: Dick Carroll <dixie@townsqr.com>
To: captnfd@yahoo.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [60992] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
Message-ID: <3888CF3C.86867396@townsqr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ken Hanks wrote:
>
> Rich:
>
> You really do not need a ground. The antenna is balanced and there is no AC
> power to your rig. You setup is pretty much self contained.
>

 Yeah. Pretend you're in an airplane. :-)

 Dick W0EX

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 15:39:45 -0600
From: Dick Carroll <dixie@townsqr.com>
To: DBarrett@creo.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [60993] Re: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
Message-ID: <3888D221.48F633A0@townsqr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

NOTHING works like Caig's Deoxit 5. Period. Do youirself
a favor and get a can NOW. Use it sparingly and it lasts for
years.

73, Dick W0EX

Dave Barrett wrote:
>
> No WD40 PLEASE.....customer usage of this stuff is like the plague to
> the service industry.
>
> PLEASE don't use it. The stuff leaves a terrible mess everywhere it
> contacts and does little to clean a pot, it merely "wets" the track, doesn't
> lubricate either.....
> If you want your pot cleaned at a reasonable price get a good quality
> silicon TV tuner lube.
>
> f you want to spend a lot on an expensive repair further down the road go
> ahead and squirt WD40 in your equipment....
>   Dave VA7DB (Service industry 38 years)
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Mike Pupeza [mailto:mpupeza@softecsys.net]
> Sent: Friday, 21 January, 2000 10:11 AM
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
> Subject: Re: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
>
> I have had very good success with 'plain old' WD-40! Better than some of the
> 'Specialty' cleaners. Perhaps because it leaves a residue on the pot, and
> contacts.
>
> One thing that I have found, is to make sure there is no power or signal
> going through the pot, or switch. Give it a 'small' swoosh, then work it
> back and forth, wiping up any overspray.
>
> While it has worked for me, please don't hold me liable for any damage
> caused! This is a 'suggestion' only - try it at your own risk!
>
> WD-40 can be VERY flammable - I often spray it into the throat of
> carbeurators of small engines to get them to start. Works fine there too. In
> fact, if it had an SPF rating, and some Insect Repellant in it, I would
> probably use it for 'everything'!
>
> Good luck.
>

> Mike Pupeza VE3EQP

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 16:48:07 -0500
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <marion@montana.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60994] Re: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
Message-ID: <015401bf6459$ec687980$9001a8c0@wn.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I've used WD-40, but I've always been worried about the 'petroleum'
products in it causing problems with the binding agents on a pot.
Or attacking some of the plastics nearby in a device.

Then again, for some noisey switches, I've actually used petroleum
jelly.

I used to use WD-40 for a lot of things, but it just get's 'too far'
once
it's put in there. It's way too penetrating. A silicon based lubricant
should be inert.

But if you have a noisey pot or switch you really should ask yourself
why. If it's just age and moisture or dirt, then just about anything
with
a cleansing and/or lubricating action would work. But a lot of times
a noisy pot means a cap used in the circuit around it as a DC
block is breaking down, and that should be fixed, not just cleaning
up the pot.

And while WD-40 will work short term (the long term is still
'undecided', why would you use it when there are products
out there like Blue Shower, Blue Wash, and a host of other
high quality sprays that are DESIGNED to do this (ok, at a
slightly higher cost) but not only are they designed to work
effectively and correctly, but you could have some recourse
against them if they damaged a component. Let WD-40 drip
or track and get where it's not supposed to and the WD-40
people would laugh their you know what off it you went back
at them and said it ruined your radio!!

By the way, while I really like WD-40 for a lot of things, I've found
it's
quite bad for some things that you don't expect. I've known a lot of

people that USED to use WD-40 on firearms. Turns out that's a big
no-no. Something about it being hydroscopic or something, and it
can cause the metal to weaken allong a grain? Also I've used it on
things like a squeaky car door hinge. But it doesn't last, not like the
spray white lithium. (And no, I'm NOT suggesting spraying white
lithium inside your radios!!)

And yes, I DO keep 2 or 3 cans of it on the shelf. But I also have cans
of correct cleaners, lubricants, and in general, all kinds of stuff.
And I
don't always use stuff the way it's intended. (Ever see what happens
if you spray an alluminum alloy 'blued' frame Taurus handgun with
video head cleaner or carb cleaner? Turns a frosty white!! I thought
I ruined the finish, but a wipe down with Hoppes oil brought the dark
blue luster back!)

Mike

> At 03:08 PM 1/21/00 -0500, Mike Pupeza wrote:
>
> >I've ALWAYS been able to clean off excess WD-40 with Isopropyl
Alcohol
> >(90%+) and
> >Q-tips, when, and where needed.
>
> >Again, maybe personal experience, and preference?
>
> >Mike Pupeza VE3EQP
> Well frankly I was supervised at the reaction you got. I am a 25 year
> service tech, and the only thing I have ever used that works is WD-40.
And
> all services techs I have ever known swear by the stuff. I have tried
it
> all and have found nothing better. But I just make a living at it, so
my
> opinion probably won't hold up to the quasi-experts. 73 roy AB7CE
>
>

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 14:49:31 -0700
From: "Steve/n0tu" <n0tu@webaccess.net>
To: "QRP-L" <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [60995] Re: TenTec PTO kit
Message-ID: <00aa01bf6459$66cad8e0$5448460f@snp.webaccess.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

It's gone. Very quickly I must say!

Tks. Steve/n0tu

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 17:16:16 EST
From: FrConrad@aol.com
To: QRP-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [60996] WD-40--Wrisking the Wrath of the OT Police
Message-ID: <9.124d1e6.25ba34b0@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

...and speaking of using WD-40 FOR QRP APPLICATIONS...

WD-40 was the 40th formula invented for the space program as a Water Displacement film to spray on wrockets, nose cones, satellites, and the powered washtubs they were sending into space in the 60's. (Sometimes I feel like formula WD-39).

It contains some kind of varnish that "protects" the surface after the propellant and later the lubricant evaporate. This varnish stays and will build up.

I discovered this in one of my past lives by spraying it onto an airplane trim jack screw that was getting stiff. Spray it on, and things work better for a while, then they get stiffer. Spray it on again (I am a slow learner) and they work okay and then get stiffer yet. Spray it on again and when it dries, things bind solid. The varnish build up made the jack screw slightly larger and it bound up. I ended up flying about three hours with no way to trim the pitch of the airplane (it's like holding a large book at arms length for a couple of hours).

IMNSHO (think not-so-humble), WD-40 has very limited use around the QRP hamshack. Don't spray it into anything with limited clearances. It will ruin any good tumbler lock you spray it into and will eventually bind up most variable capacitors and pots with sleeve bearings. That said, it does displace water immediately (that's why there's no WD-41) and it is a very good rust protector for tools, tower and antenna hardware and traps, not to mention the nose cones of wrockets.

Please send all Off-topic flames to: FrConrad@lightenup.com.

John+

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 17:44:20 -0500
From: "Don Wilhelm" <w3fpr@arrl.net>
To: <prm@hiwaay.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60997] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
Message-ID: <007601bf6461$1aafd700$4ab17ed8@dbw-11-main>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Richard and all,
It sounds to me like you have things correct as they are. The AC ground is isolated from your transmitter, so no safety concern here (assuming you have a safe boat in other regards). From what I have gleaned, fresh water is a very good insulator. And as Stuart pointed out - with a balanced antenna (like your inverted vee, you don't need an RF ground.

You are on your own as far a a boat and lightning - the boating experts can probably respond on that better than most of us.

73,
Don Wilhelm -Chapel Hill, NC
 W3FPR   QRP-L # 485   K2 SN 0020

>
>I operate 30 meters from my houseboat, mostly at the dock using the boat
>batteries as power for my QRP rig. Should I just use the boat frame as
>ground or will I be better off (antenna wise) to drop a separate ground rod
>off into the water (fresh water, not salt). I use an inverted vee strung
>above the boat cabin. Right now my ground is the boat frame ground which
>has bare metal in contact with the water and I have no problems that I am
>aware of. I have 120VAC shore power but only use it for appliances and
>lighting on board that need AC. It's ground is through the internal ground
>wire.
>

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 22:47:09 -0500
From: patrick m kvitkauskas <pmk@juno.com>
To: dodgeboy@mindspring.com, qrp-l@lehigh.EDU

Subject: [60998] Re: OT: cleaning dirty pots, rotaries
Message-ID: <20000121.224710.10278.1.pmk@juno.com>

It is usually a catch 22! You can clean them but it usually don't last
very long as the cleaners tend to corrode anything it touches (as
they clean so well). Using a cleaner with a lube tends to attract
dust and dirt and that's another problem as well. Just about
every service manual I have used usually recommends
replacing the dirty pots. I thought at first it was a sales pitch
and would clean them anyway. They would end up doing the
same thing as before and was back to square one. I usually
try and rotate them to the point the scratching goes away for
a quick fix (yes it will go away but usually takes a few hundred
turns sometimes) but lasts longer than putting some cleaner
in them.

I don't know if there is a good cleaner out there that works as
I don't even think of cleaning a bad pot from past experiences
and usually put up with it until I get frustrated and just replace it.

Who knows I might even learn something from this thread.

72 de Patrick KD4OBQ

AR
send replies to
pmk@juno.com   for faster service (checked twice daily)
pmk@bellsouth.net   to send pictures
http://www.qsl.net/kd4obq/   QRP site
http://homestead.juno.com/pmk/FILES/INDEX.HTM   R/C soaring site

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Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 15:13:44 -0800 (PST)
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [60999] Re: To ground your antenna or not? (long)
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.10.10001211507410.19704-100000@rotor.dri.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

> > You really do not need a ground. The antenna is balanced and there is no AC
> > power to your rig. You setup is pretty much self contained.
> >
>
> Yeah. Pretend you're in an airplane. :-)

Airplanes will drive you nuts....

Our S2 Tracker that we use for seeding and other tasks caused me
to do some head scratching.....

It's got 110 VAC in it. They were telling me that it was 3 phase
but there were only 2 wires!

Now I ain't all that smart about electronics but on the other hand
I didn't just get off the boat yesterday either. I KNEW that you
had to have 3 wires to have a 3 phase system....

Weeks went by and then I got a chance to look over the book. Yep,
it's 3 phase alright.....and only 2 WIRES.....the 3rd phase is
carried by the airframe!

The 28 VDC and 12 VDC supplies both have the airframe as the
negative side.

The 110 single phase inverter uses 2 wires.

Yep, sitting there in the aircraft and touching anything metal
means you are contacting one phase of the 3 phase system!

No harm, no foul.....been done like this for lots of years.

Just a little tidbit I thought some might like seeing!

cul,

73, Ron

.........KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@dri.edu....Washoe Lake, Nevada....NRA LIFE....
.....SOWP 5545M.......WHINERS #1........ZOMBIE #18.....

Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2000 15:26:51 -0800 (PST)
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [61000] WD 40
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.10.10001211517110.19704-100000@rotor.dri.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I have used it for lots of things.....

It's a good starter fluid if you need one.

It's GREAT for getting stickers off glass and many plastics but
be sure to test it first.....is will "melt" some plastics.

It is NOT a lubricant.

If you think it is, just put it all over your nice semi auto .45
and start shooting.....

Let me know how many rounds you get out of it before it gals (sp?)
the frame/slide!

I have used it for a cleaner but only when I had nothing else to
use and had to get the job done right then.

I remember back when a noisy pot was fixed with either some carbon
tet or by opening it up and rubbing it with a soft lead pencil.....

Now we can't have that but we can sniff fumes that will start a
car! Thank goodness the EPA is protecting us from ourselves! :-)

Ahhhh, maybe our new Affirmative Action Licensing System will
save us..... :-)

(That's a joke folks, don't get your nit in a twitch!)

73, Ron

.........KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@dri.edu....Washoe Lake, Nevada....NRA LIFE....
.....SOWP 5545M.......WHINERS #1........ZOMBIE #18.....

End of QRP-L Digest 1707
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